Now Playing

9-12

Whiting High School Reflector iOilers

2007 2008

MENU

Whiting High School

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MENU

1751 Oliver Street
Whiting, Indiana
Volume 87

Now Playing... 2007-2008 Shuffle

"Welcome back, your dreams were your ticket out...

Welcome back, to that same old place that you laughed about..."

Another year of school has come, along with many responsibilities, whether they be athletic, academic or other leisurely activities. But no matter how you spend your four years of high school, we can all be linked together. This year's theme is music. We chose this theme because even though we are all different, we can all relate to each other, especially through music. Like most school years, we expect many new changes and improvements, along with chart-topping performances. Like notes on a scale, we all synchronize to create something unforgettable. Each of us brings our own pitch, tone and uniqueness to compose a harmonious school year. We hope that the 2007-2008 school year doesn't miss a beat.

Above, The newly formed Mayor's Youth Advisory, consisting of three sophomores, three juniors and three seniors, met monthly to discuss service projects within the city.

Left, The Oiler football team bursts onto their home turf for the first game of the season against the South Central Satellites.

Right, SCOW Administrators honor four longtime Oiler fans during a half-time presentation at the South Central football game.

Left, The Lady Oilers and first-time varsity coach Kelly Greer celebrate their victory against Kouts to become the first Sectional Volleyball Champions at WHS, and the first 1A GSSC Champs.

Above, Loyal high school fans bring cheers, excitement and unique outfits to the Friday night varsity football games with the revamped "Xtreme Team."

Left, The cast of Matthew Augustyn's "The Laziest Man in the World," including Camilo Campos, Victor Garcia and Ryan Augustyn, takes a bow after their performance. Right, King Charley Osorio and Queen Erica Arroyo were Medieval royalty during the second annual Madrigal.

Right, Mr. Nichols and Mr. Long's Science Olympiad Choice class are the winners of the Can-O-Peas Award. These students unselfishly donated the most items for the less fortunate.

Above, New German teacher Mrs. Anderson gets herself situated with her new surroundings. Below, Mr. Milenkoff becomes the new U.S. History/World Geography teacher.

Left, Mrs. Klochan's Sophomore Choice class donated the most money to the annual National Honor Society's Thanksgiving Drive to earn themselves the coveted Turkey Trophy.

Above, The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Blue Ribbon Award was awarded to Whiting High School. Only eight schools in Indiana received this prestigious nomination.

Below, After the exhilarating Homecoming Week, all of the high school students gather in the gym for the pep assembly with noisemakers, signs and Oiler pride.

Above, First-year girls basketball varsity coach Kevin Moynihan and assistant coach Matt Moynihan plan plays for the game against River Forest during a timeout.

Left, Junior Christabel Gutierrez pulls ahead of the pack of runners. The girls cross country team finished fourth in sectionals and missed qualifying for semistate by two points. Right, Junior German students construct a human pyramid during their Oktoberfest celebration.

Now Playing...

Activities

Homecoming

"Hop on a carpet and fly
To another Arabian night..."

Homecoming this year was full of Oiler Spirit. The week started with the students dressing in their favorite lounging attire on Pajama Day. The rest of the week the students wore college gear, salad dressing outfits and superhero costumes. On Friday, students showed their school pride by dressing in all green and white. At Thursday's parade the theme was Disney movies. The juniors came out victorious with their Peter Pan float. On Friday afternoon, the pep assembly was held in the gym. Each grade competed in the volleyball game and senior girls performed a skit honoring the senior football players. At halftime during Friday's game, the Spirit Stick was awarded to the junior and freshman classes. Also at halftime, Victoria Franco and Adam Flores were announced as this year's queen and king. "Winning Homecoming Queen was an amazing experience that I will never forget. When I was announced, I was still so happy for Adam that I really didn't realize it, but I was extremely excited and overwhelmed," said Franco. "Winning Homecoming King was a great experience. It was cool because my brother won too," said Flores.

Above, Homecoming Queen Victoria Franco and King Adam Flores smile for a picture-perfect moment after their crowning at the Whiting vs. Calumet game.

Below, Seniors Emilee Kalocinski and Tiffany Bayless dress as two football players during the senior skit.

Left, Sophomore girls enjoy spending the day as cowgirls on Salad Dressing Day.

Above, Freshmen Julianna Stribiak, Lupe Cornejo and Jennifer Hennessey act as superheroes.

Below, Sophomores Katie Franciski and Melissa Rodriguez look beautiful in their dresses.

Left, Senior football players enjoy their last high school bonfire together before their big game against Calumet.

Above, Freshmen begin the week in their comfy pajamas for their first Homecoming Week.

Left, German Club members walk with their pretzel made during Spirit Week.

Right, Senior court members wait anxiously to hear who is crowned king and queen.

"I thought homecoming was fun. My favorite part was being in the Homecoming Court."
junior Taylor Pokraka

"Homecoming was a lot of fun. I enjoyed dancing and going out with my friends to eat afterward."
freshman
Amanda Blackwell

"I thought homecoming w amazing. My favorite p was spending time with all t friends. It was definitely memo rable and a great experience add to my senior year."
senior Erica Arroyo

Above, The Homecoming Queen and King spend time with their court before being announced at the dance.

Below, Students dance to one of the songs played by the DJ at the dance on Saturday night.

Right, Freshman Elliot Bajda blocks junior varsity volleyball coach Jill Gajewski's spike at the pep rally. The freshmen team defeated the teachers' team during the championship match.

Left, The senior class spend the day in their thousand island attire. The seniors showed great participation throughout Spirit Week.

Below, Juniors Chris Moynihan, dressed as Peter Pan, and Alexis Luna ride down 119th Street during Thursday's parade.

Below, Members of the freshman class relax during the dance after the bonfire.

Right, Freshman attendants, Phillip Espinosa and Marysol Garcia, wait for the parade to begin.

Below, During the pep rally, juniors show their class spirit by cheering on their volleyball team during the game against the senior class.

Above, Before the start of the parade, freshmen show that they have the Golden Ticket to victory.

Left, Seniors Ashley Kieltyka, Victoria Franco and Natalie Mendez embrace each other after the senior circle at the end of the Arabian Night.

Left, Juniors in Mr. Laub's Algebra II were quiet, at least on this particular day, as they dress as mimes for French dressing on Salad Dressing Day.

"Homecoming was fun. I enjoyed dancing with friends. My favorite part was when everyone danced to 'Crank dat Soulja Boy.'"
junior Maira Medina

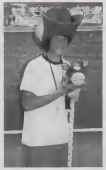
"I had a lot of fun at homecoming this year! I hung out with all my friends. We danced the whole night!" sophomore Erica Simunic

"Homecoming was great, especially since I really looked Hawaiian on Salad Dressing Day."
senior Charley Osorio

"Arabian nights, Like Arabian days,

More often than not,

are hotter than hot



In a lot of good ways..."

Oktoberfest

"Ein Prosit, ein Prosit
Der Gemütlichkeit."

Teamwork. It was one of the most essential elements for all the students participating in Oktoberfest. From preparations to the actual Oktoberfest games, it took patience and cooperation from many sources, combining all efforts together to create a memorable experience for everyone. Many annual Oktoberfest traditions were still performed, while new German teacher, Frau Anderson, added new creative ideas, such as the clothes relay and German tongue twisters. Every participant of Oktoberfest experienced tasting German foods and the exhilarating rush of competition during various games. After feeding their hunger and recuperating from all the days' excitement, all German students had a chance to relax while playing a few rounds of bingo. By the end of the day, the itinerary was completed, and everything went smoothly and according to plan.

Above, John Lanman and Ryan Augustyn anticipate the beginning of the pie-eating contest, while Oktoberfest participants cheer them on.

Below, Joey Murzyn swiftly guzzles down root beer in hopes of becoming the root beer champion.

Above, German II students hastily battle it out in a game of the clothes relay, where they compete to see whose team can dress and undress the quickest. Right, Team Halo3 mentally prepares each other for the pyramid game with a motivating pep talk.

Right, Senior girls and Rachel Grunhard taste German food at their table.

Right, The sophomore girls sit down and relax during their first Oktoberfest.

Above, Junior team, *Gross Manschaft*, quickly huddles together devising a rational technique to building the perfect pyramid for the annual Oktoberfest game.

Left, German Club officers Christabel Gutierrez and Tiffany Bayless announce the day's itinerary. Below, Beth Murzyn helps Amanda Blackwell compete during Oktoberfest's clothes relay.

Below, The German boys climb their way to victory, taking first place in the annual pyramid race.

Below, Frau Anderson and Mrs. Elza team together to complete food preprations.

"The hustle and bustle of Oktoberfest was nonstop, before and after. It went better than I expected!"
junior
Christabel Gutierrez

"The food was great and the games were fun."
sophomore
Kim Atteberry

"I can't believe I lost to a girl in the chugging contest. A little bit of me died on the inside."
sophomore Joey Murzyn

Science Olympiad

Above, After winning first place, the Science Olympiad team proudly stands on stage at the second annual Whiting High School Invitational held in December.

"Through appliance of science,
we've got that ring of confidence..."

Early in the year, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Long and the Science Olympiad team set goals which would carry the team to new heights. The team was off to a great start as Whiting's Green Team was awarded 1st place in the WHS Invitational held in December. Even though the team was ecstatic, they knew that a busy season was ahead of them. Participating in eight competitions, the team placed as follows: at Northridge's Invitational, A Team came in 3rd place, while B Team came in 9th place; at South Bend Riley's Invitational, A Team came in 4th place, while B Team came in 12th place; at Crystal Lake Central, A Team took 9th place, while B Team took 25th place; at Hammond's Invitational, A Team took 1st place; at Loyola Academy, A Team came in 2nd place, while B Team came in 20th place. In the Purdue Calumet Regional, the team came in 2nd place, losing to Munster in a tie breaker. At the state competition at Indiana University in Bloomington, the team came in 9th place. Overall, it was a very fun and exciting year for this year's Science Olympiad Team.

Right, Mr. Nichols looks up some vital information about an upcoming biology event. Below, Senior Erica Arroyo prepares her plane for its flight at the Hammond Invite.

Below, After all their hard work and effort at the Northridge Invitational, the team finally has time to relax while awaiting their final results.

Below, Max Mills-Groninger, Wyatt Cowley and Phillip Schillaci get the electric vehicle ready for a test run.

Below, Sophomore Vanessa Jimenez and freshman Max Mills-Groninger take first place at state for their event, Oceanography.

Above, Juniors Katie Bajzatt and Emily Duha, along with senior Haydee Lara, pose with Mrs. Long to show off the first place trophy at the Hammond Invite.

Left, Juniors Josh Thompson and Danny Atteberry take first place in the state for Robot Ramble.

Above, A Science Olympiad team that plays together wins together. After the Loyola Invitational, the Science Olympiad team takes a roaring picture with Loyola Academy's mascot.

Right, Seniors Charley Osorio and Haydee Lara write down equations during the Chem Lab event.

"Science Olympiad was awesome this year. We've never competed in so many invites! I will miss it for the rest of my life."
senior Haydee Lara

"It was great meeting new people, learning new things and, above all, having fun."
junior
Danny Atteberry

"My favorite part of Science Olympiad was flying the airplanes and receiving five medals."
freshman Edgar Ojeda

Senior One-Acts

"Through the world of theatre, there's the same surge of adrenaline you get just before the camera rolls."

This year in the fall, the Drama Club unanimously decided to put on the second annual senior directed one-acts. Eight of the veteran seniors chose to direct their very own plays, with the help of some assistant directors. Some of the characters depicted in these plays included a very distraught Prince Charming, a bratty little actress named Eloise and a sluggish man. Even though the first-time directors and the actors were stressed at times, the plays could not have been more fantastic. The shows were performed on a single weekend and the audience turnout was phenomenal. "I hope that we can continue to put on these one-acts for many years to come. I look forward to what the seniors will put on next year," said Mr. Pecher.

Above, The casts of "The Loathsome Lady," "Happily Never After," "Shotgun Wedding" and "The Red Lamp" take their final bows after Sunday night's performance.

Above, Ryan Augustyn and Camilo Campos debate over who the laziest man in the world is.

Below, William, played by Bobby Gonzalez, consoles his future wife, Alice, played by Araceli Gomez.

Left, Senior Charlie Osorio ponders over the crimson light. Below, The Invisible Man, sophomore Matt Keown, chokes his assistant, Olivia Jakovich.

Above, Jester Matt Keown tries to cheer up King Arthur, played by Brian Reeves. Below, A feud between two families ends with a marriage ceremony.

Below, The cast of "Happily Never After" depicts characters from fairy tales.

Senior-Directed One-Acts

"Child Wonder"
directed by Adam Flores
"Happily Never After"
directed by Elise Elza
"Shotgun Wedding"
directed by Charlie Osorio
"The Invisible Man"
directed by Jamie Jordan
"The Laziest Man in the World"
directed by Matt Augustyn
"The Loathsome Lady"
directed by Rebecca Maslikowski
"The Red Lamp"
directed by
Erica Arroyo and Victoria Franco

Right, The Frog Prince tries to croak his way into the Pond Princess's heart.

Left, Christabel Gutierrez portrays Eloise, a spoiled young actress.

"The one-acts were a lot of work, but it was all worth it in the end. I loved directing and I was so proud of my cast."
senior Elise Elza

"Directing a one-act was a highlight of my senior year. It was a great way to get to know the new students."
senior Rebecca Maslikowski

"Even though there were times when I wanted to rip the hair out of my head, my cast members were fantastic and my one-act turned out great."
senior Jamie Jordan

Madrigal Production

Above, The Royal Court, which includes King Charlie Osorio and Queen Erica Arroyo, delights their audience with many songs such as "Silent Night."

Right, Christabel Gutierrez, Becca Maslikowski and Sandra Silva talk to the 'village' people. Below, King Charley and Queen Erica dance.

Below, Sophomore Matt Keown entertains the audience by telling many jokes.

Above, The traveling troubador, played by junior Katie Bajzatt, brings in a fiery dragon. Below, Sandra Silva and Adam Flores walk in with the Royal Court.

"Wassal, wassal all over the town,
our toast it is white and our ale is brown..."

A rubber chicken, some old English accents and a good ol' cup of wassail were just some of the items that the cast had to acquire for the second annual Madrigal dinner production. With only three weeks to memorize lines, two nights to perform on and a director about to go into labor, the Drama Club thought they were in over their heads. But as we all know, the show must go on! So, with the assistance of many helping hands and a bunch of tape, the cafeteria was once again transformed into a Middle Age castle, with stone walls and stained-glass windows. This year the plot thickened, with a traveling troubadour, played by Katie Bajzatt, trying to take the job away from the noble jester, Matt Keown. After many humorous jokes, magical animals and a flamboyant sword fight, the King and Queen crowned Keown the King of Jesters and the merriness of Christmas was restored once again.

Right, Before the Madrigal dinner ends, Mr. Pecher conducts the Whiting High School Choir in songs like "Away In A Manger."

Left, Senior Elisa Elza plays Medieval music to enhance the atmosphere.

Right, Sophomore Alexia Obregon serves wassail to guests.

Above, The King and Queen bring forth a boar's head as the main entree for the Medieval dinner.

"I thought the Madrigal was pretty awesome because I got to do a lot of random things, like the sword fight with the troubador."
sophomore Matt Keown

"Although the decorations refused to stay up, I was glad that I was queen and Charlie was king. I also loved singing O Holy Night!"
senior Erica Arroyo

This year was harder than last year because we had two shows instead of one. It was hard work, but we pulled it together." sophomore Steven Atteberry

Sectional Turnabout

"It's a supernatural delight
everybody's dancing in the moonlight..."

Trying to get as many classmates involved in preparing for a dance isn't easy, but the class of 2010 pulled through just fine in the end with the help of their sponsor, Mr. Strabavy. The theme for this year's dance was "Moonlight in Paradise," and the decorations complemented the theme beautifully. At the entrance guests were given a lei and voted for sectional royalty. The freshman attendants included Megan Jakovich and Stephen Bajzatt; sophomore attendants Amy Mahony and Jacob Wright; junior attendants Julia Kempke and Julian Nevarez; and senior attendants Lupe delapaz, Erica Arroyo, Emilee Kalocinski, Jon Lovasko, Nathan Sabol and Tim Wajvoda. Near the evening's end, Erica Arroyo was crowned queen and Tim Wajvoda, king. "Sectionals was amazing. Winning queen was awesome and having Timothy as my king made it better. Thank you to everyone who voted for us, and thank you to the sophomores for making it such a memorable evening," said Arroyo. Shortly after the crowning, the seniors danced to the last song of the night in the senior circle. Overall it was an evening to remember.

Above, Near the end of the dance, seniors Erica Arroyo and Tim Wajvoda were crowned Sectional Sweethearts.

Above, Students, dressed in their beautiful attire, wait to receive their tickets and vote for the Sectional Royalty.

Below, Juniors Julian Nevarez and Julia Kempke, senior Jaime Jordan and junior Alexis Luna get together for a picture.

Left, Emily Matulewicz and Anthony Adair gaze into each other's eyes. Below, Sophomore Enrique Silva and his gorgeous date sophomore Christine Cervantes look like they're having a good time.

Below, Freshman Bobby Gonzalez and his date Ashley Pokraka enjoy a dance.

Below, Sarah Jansky, Lauren McNinch and her date make their way into the gym.

Above, A group of students, including freshman attendant Megan Jakovich, dance the night away to the upbeat music.

Right, Senior Michelle Mirza and her date share a special momenton the dance floor.

Left, Becca Maslikowski and Melissa Castellano, seniors, get down on the dance floor. Right, Sophomores Ashley Thompson and Sarah Mureiko take a break from dancing.

"It was fun! I had a great time dancing with Enrique (Silva) and I was happy that Tracy (Casanova) went. I had a good time." sophomore Christine Cervantes

"Sectionals was hip. The decorations were pretty. The music could've been better, but, other than that, it was awesome." junior Alexis Luna

"I thought sectionals w fun because I won juni sectional sweetheart atte dant with my boyfriend J lian." junior Julia Kemph

Above, A group of pumped classmates share the excitement of dancing to the music.

Below, Freshman attendants Stephen Bajzatt and Megan Jakovich make their way to the dance floor.

Right, Sophomore Rachel Sherer and senior Jamie Jordan follow the steps to the well-known "Cha Cha Slide," a WHS dance favorite.

Left, Natalie Mendez and guest dance to Soulja Boy while fellow classmates crowd around. Right, a picture-perfect moment of the night.

Below, Freshman boys Jordan Hennessey, Camilo Campos, Emerik Quiroz and Jordy Lema have fun.

Right, Students dance the night away to songs such as the "Electric Slide."

Right, Freshman Matt Aponte and his date Taylor McNinch slow dance to the last song of the night.

Below, The 2008 Sectional Court gathers for a group picture after the king and queen winners were announced.

Above, In one of the evening's highlights, students wait in anticipation to see who the lucky winners for sectional king and queen will be.

Left, Sophomore Vice-President Sarah Watkins crowns Erica Arroyo Sectional Queen.

Left, John Demkovich shows his unique style. Right, Sophomore attendants process into the gym.

"I had a blast at sectionals. The music was great and we pulled everything together and made it look good. Afterwards I went to TGI Friday's with some of my friends and the night ended great."
sophomore Katie Franciski

"I had fun at this year's sectionals; the food was good, the music was great, but the decorations could have been better."
sophomore Aldo Lopez

"I had tons of fun at sectionals. I danced with my friends and my date the whole night! It was great."
freshman Brittany Lupo

Spring Production

"Come with me and you'll be,
In a world of pure imagination."

"Who can take a sunrise, sprinkle it in dew, cover it in chocolate and a miracle or two?" Why, Willy Wonka can, of course! This year's spring production was the Scrumdiddlyumcious performance of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." With a new director, Nathan Hale's Mr. Allen, to spice things up, WHS's Drama Club had the chance to perform an imaginative play filled with a delightfully vibrant essence. The cast had the opportunity to stir in their own ideas by creating novel scenes while also mixing in a few scenes from the beloved classic movie, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," as well. In addition, the Oompa Loompas also choreographed their own crafty dance moves for each song. Although they encountered a few sticky casting problems, they made a few tweaks here and there, and ended up with a dazzling performance. Katie Bajzatt, who played the lucky fifth golden ticket winner Charlie, commented, "Being a part of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" was definitely the highlight of my junior year. Mr. Allen was a fantastic director, and I enjoyed working with such a fun energetic cast."

Above, The main cast of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" huddled around Willy Wonka, played by Mr. Allen, to listen the wondrous history of Oompa Loompas.

Above, Oompa Loompas explain the importance of not allowing children to waste away in front of the television.

Below, Nathan Sabol, playing Mike Teave, checks out the Wonkavision, held by third grader Jacqueline Zarate.

Left, Wonka meets the fiery Violet Beauregarde, played by Haleigh Suarez, for the first time. Below, Charlie shares his exciting story of how he gained possession of the fifth golden ticket

Below, Christabel Gutierrez, portraying Veruca Salt, demands her father (Taylor Pokraka) buy her a trained squrriel.

Below, Becca Maslikowski introduces the play by singing a beautiful rendition of "Pure Imagination."

Above, Charlie Bucket (Katie Bajzatt) and Grandpa Joe, played by Victor Garcia, get the wonderful opportunity of meeting their hero, Willy Wonka.

Right, Wonka and Charlie exchange a few words upon entering the Chocolate Room.

Left, Wonka interrupts Mike Teave so the two can have a proper first introduction.

Above, Erica Arroyo enlightens the children by telling the tale of Willy Wonka.

"People actually thought I was a boy! It was really sticky having the chocolate all over me, but what can beat eating while on stage?"
junior
Alexis Luna

"I absolutely loved the play! My favorite parts were when Alexis had her obsession with chocolate and how I got to be stuffed!"
sophomore
Sarah Watkins

"I loved the play, especially with Mr. Alan being the director. My part was a little challenging, but was worth all the effort in the end."
junior
Victor Garcia

Above, The Salt's and Wonka have a charming first introduction with each other, until their pride and joy Vercua mouths off.

Below, The Oompa Loompas, conducted by JZ, attempt to bellow out the "harmonious" Vercua Salt opera during one of the play's many humorous moments.

Right, Mr. and Mrs. Teave, Ryan Augustyn and Becca Maslikowski, listen to the high-pitched squeal of their son after he was the first transported through television.

Left, Violet attempts to snatch Wonka's new invention, a chewing gum meal. Right, Wonka begins the tour by leading his group through the bright red door.

Below, Wonka's tour gets a chance to ride down the chocolate river in his boat.

Right, Mr. and Mrs. Bucket take care of all four of their elderly parents by tending to their needs.

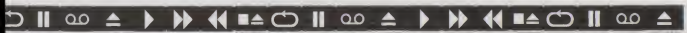
Right, Willy Wonka and Mrs. Gloop battle it out after her son Augustus was sucked away by the chocolate river's pipes.

Below, Mrs. Gloop, played by Sarah Watkins, warns her hungry son to step away from the delicious chocolate river because he's leaning too far out and may fall in!

Above, The Salt's, along with Mr. Wonka, gather around the Nut Room's window, fearfully watching as their daughter is dragged down the rubbish shoot by one hundred tiny squirrels.

Left, The Ommpa Loompas show off their creative dancing skills throughout the Mike Teave rap.

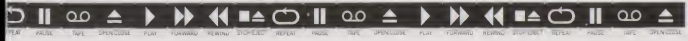
Left, Erica Arroyo tells the audience of Willy Wonka bars. Right, Alexis Luna takes her final bow for playing Augustus Gloop.



"I had fun doing the play! I made some awesome friends! I'm looking forward to the same backstage fun and conversations for next year"
freshman
Nick Zepeda

"It was nice to meet so many people who hadn't been in Drama Club before. Overall, I think the play turned out to be a great success. I'm going to miss it next year."
senior
Becca Maslikowski

"I felt like a hero because I saved the day by filling in at the last minute. After I joined, the play became magical."
sophomore
Ryan Augustyn



Prom

"Come on babe, why don't we paint the town? And all that jazz..."

The "cat's meow" is the perfect term to describe this year's prom, which was held at the Avalon Manor. With the theme of the 1920's, everyone was able to enjoy a swell night of fox-trotting and socializing. Taking place on Friday, May 2, 2008, the night started off with Whiting's traditional pre-prom, held in the auditorium. Here, the charming boys escorted their dolled up dates across the decorated stage, while the "big cheese" Mr. Moynihan, the class sponsor of 2009, announced the couples. Soon after, everyone rushed off to the dance. Upon arrival, the gals received the superb favors of black boas while the gents were given some spiffy top hats. Dinner was served, and the dancing began. Finally the moment everyone was anticipating came, the crowning of the 2008 Prom Court. First to be announced were juniors, Daniel Reyes and Araceli Gomez, who were selected prom prince and princess. At last, prom's queen title was bestowed upon senior Melissa Castellano, and king to senior Charley Osario. So in the end, everyone had the chance to experience one of the most memorable nights of their lives, making the night truly ours.

Above, Prom Queen Melissa Castellano and King Charlie Osorio share a slow dance after being crowned.

Above, Seniors gather on the dance floor to take a picture while Nathan Sabol flexes his guns for the photographer.

Below, Senior Samantha Thompson, junior Emily Matulewicz and senior Michelle Mirza are ready for the festivities.

Left, Junior Alex Ledesma helps put his date Samantha Perez's corsage on her wrist. Below, Mike Rokicki, senior, gets a breath of fresh Whiting air before pre-prom begins.

Below, John Demkovich makes his "hungry" face while waiting for his dinner to be served.

Below, Junior Kelsey Boland and senior Melissa Castellano look forward to the night.

Above, The senior class gathers near the end of the night in the hallway during their final prom.

Right, Sharp-dressed freshman boys enjoy their first prom.

Left, Juniors Evelyn Garcia and Vianey Garcia show off their gorgeous bouquet. Right, Promgoers pack the dance floor.

"Prom this year was really good. I had a blast dancing with a lot of different people! I think the juniors did a great job!"
senior
Santiago Nieto

"Prom was the most fun I have ever had at a dance. It was really pretty, too!"
senior
Jackie Cervantes

"Prom this year was inte-ing. The music was okay the decorations were amaz It was definitely a memor evening."
junior Juanita Ramirez

Above, Senior Haydee Lara and junior Josh Thompson share a laugh at their dinner table just before their food arrives.

Below, Junior Anthony Rodriguez and freshman Matt Aponte vote for prom court just before entering.

Right, Lovely ladies, senior Ashley Kieltyka and her cousin sophomore Lauren Kieltyka, flash a great big smile while enjoying each other's company at pre-prom.

Left, The Prince and Princess of this year's prom were the fabulous Danny Reyes and the astonishing Araceli Gomez. Right, Enjoying the music, junior Liz Ayon spends her night on the dance floor.

Below, Juniors Emily Henricy, Berenice Frausto, Jessica Flores and Melanie Colon begin their much-anticipated evening.

Right, Junior prom committee members and their sponsor Mr. Moynihan see that hard work pays.

Right, "Dancing with the Stars" hopeful senior Adam Flores shows fellow promgoers how it's done.

Below, Sophomores Karan Darji and Joey Murzyn, junior Eddie Galaviz, senior Zach O'Drobinak and junior Chris Moynihan wait for their dates.

Above, Seniors Melanie Stathakis, Adam Flores and other senior prom-goers leave on their merry way to The Avalon Manner in Merrillville, where prom was held this year.

Left, Beauty runs in the family...Sisters Jessica Kempke and Julia Kempke look great together.

Left, Friends Emilee Kalocinski, Becca Maslikowski, Diana Lupo and Samantha Plavec look glamorous. Right, WHS students enjoy the departure from uniformity of color at the prom.

"The decorations were amazing and all the hard work that we put into it was definitely worth it. I had a lot of fun and wish we could do it again. "
junior Gaby Lopez

"I could not even believe they called my name out for prom prince! I was like OMG, I JUST WON!! It was FIERCE!"
junior Daniel Reyes

"Prom was great. The dance and food were awesome. I really didn't want the night to come to an end!"
sophomore
Crystal Godinez

Graduation

"Dear friends, thanks for the best years of my life I mean that..."

Looking back on the past four years is something that every senior does. With memories of good times floating in their heads, they put on their caps and gowns. For the class of 2008, their senior year will be remembered as one where they finally came together and formed a close bond. Each person influenced another in a way they will never forget. After graduation day, every senior will take a step into their future and each will be in a different direction than another's. Some friendships may stay for life while others may change. Some may find success here at home and some a long distance away. No matter where the classmates end up, they can still come together when they reflect on the precious time they spent at Whiting High School.

Above, The choir wishes the graduates luck by singing "Irish Blessing."

Below, Guests on the dais proudly watch the class of 2008.

Above, Chosen by the senior class, Miss Guaccio prepares to announce the names of the graduates of 2008.

Right, A few students anxiously await the beginning of the ceremony.

Left, Elise Elza makes her way to the podium to accept the Jack Taylor Scholarship.

Above, Victoria Franco addresses her fellow classmates when she gives her valedictory speech with wishes of good luck for their futures.

Below, Soon to be retired Mr. Klosek gives his last speech to the graduating class.

Left, Adam Flores shows that he is very excited to be graduating. Below, Mr. Laub congratulates Samatha Plavec for becoming the first student to receive the Mr. Flick Memorial Scholarship.

Left, Walking back from receiving his high school diploma is senior Jonathan Hayes who can't help but be all smiles.

"I will miss seeing the people I grew up with, the excitement for the new activities and high school dances." Claudia Torres

"I am going to miss all of my friends, Drama Club, the dances and the junior class."
Jamie Jordan

"I will miss being immature, movie nights, random talks with teachers and taking personal breaks."
Haydee Lara

Above, Salutatorian Haydee Lara gives her tear-jerking speech that was filled with memories of both personal and class accomplishments.

Above, Near the start of the ceremony, Samantha Plavec reads Mr. Flick's Principal's Message as her fellow graduating classmates give their full attention to hear his final words about "choice."

Right, Mr. Pecher directs the band to play the processional to begin the ceremony. Below, Clutching her diploma, Letisha Delgado returns to her seat.

Below, Michael Rokicki tosses his cap in the air after the class turns their tassles.

Above, Whiting High School alumnus and author, Mr. Al Koch, delivers the commencement address to the graduates and reminds them to always "Help mom with the dishes." Below, Melanie Stathakis shows how happy she is to finally graduate from WHS.

Above, The class of 2008 switches their tassles from right to left, officially marking their graduation from high school.

Below, Erica Arroyo and Becca Maslikowski sing "For Good" which has become a graduation tradition.

Left, Zach O'Drobinak and Grecia Gomez march in unison as the music plays.

Above, Mrs. Wilson receives a thank you gift for bravely being the 2008 class sponsor.

"I'm going to miss not having any responsibilites and I'm definitely going to miss all of my friends!"
Melanie Stathakis

"I will definitely miss walking through the hallways and seeing my friends. Amy, too!"
Jackie Cervantes

"I'm going to miss my friends and visiting Ms. Hylek and Senora Klochan every passing time."
Grecia Gomez

PLAY FORWARD REWIND STOP/EJECT PAUSE VOL. UP VOL. DOWN OPEN/CLOSE REPEAT OPEN/CLOSE RECORD

Academic Team

First row: Captains Samantha Thompson, English; Victoria Franco, Math; Erica Arroyo, Fine Arts; Adam Flores, Social Studies; Charlie Osorio, Science and Interdisciplinary. Mrs. Herochik and Mr. Long, sponsors

Band

First row: Jamie Jordan, Charlie Osorio, Elisa Elza. Second row: Josh Thompson, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Erin Lawson, Fernando Sahagun. Third row: Kaitlyn Muratori, Rachel Grunhard, Katherine Staley, Evelyn Garcia, Vianey Garcia.
Mr. Pecher, director

Booster Club

First row: Erica Arroyo, president; Victoria Franco, vice-president; Ashley Kieltyka, secretary; Maegan Stribiak, treasurer.
Mr. Romero, sponsor

Choir

First row: Natalie Mendez, Erica Arroyo, Becca Maslikowski, Jamie Jordan, Claudia Torres. Second row: Sandra Silva, Christabel Gutierrez, Katie Bajzatt, Stephen Bajzatt, Maegan Stribiak, Maira Medina, Aricl Reyna. Third row: Steven Atteberry, Brittany Lupo, Guadalupe Cornejo, Amy Mahony, Christine Slivka, Sarah Mureiko, Alexis Luna. Fourth row: Matt Keown, Meghan Thompson, Alexia Obregon, Sarah Watkins, Olivia Jakovich, Elizabeth Ayon. Mr. Pecher, director

Drama Club

Erica Arroyo, president; Christabel Gutierrez, vice-president; Haleigh Suarez, secretary; Adrianna Cruz, treasurer. Mrs. Bundridge, Mr. Pecher, sponsors

German Club

First row: Chris Moynihan, secretary; Tiffany Bayless, vice-president; Christabel Gutierrez, president; Samantha Thompson, historian.

Mrs. Anderson, sponsor

PLAY FORWARD REWIND STOP/EJECT PAUSE VOL. UP VOL. DOWN OPEN/CLOSE REPEAT OPEN/CLOSE RECORD

National Honor Society

First row: Victoria Franco, president; Tiffany Bayless, vice-president; Ashley Kieltyka, treasurer; Michelle Mirza, secretary. Second row: Taylor Pokraka, Nathan Sabol, Samantha Thompson, Haydee Lara, Elise Elza. Third row: Ryan Willoughby, Danny Atteberry, Brittany Stoklosa, Katie Bajzatt, Emily Matulewicz, Haleigh Suarez. Fourth row: Anna Cervantes, Berenice Frausto, Richie Munoz, Phil Schillaci, Michael Unate. Mr. Klosek, sponsor

Reflector

First row: Kelsee Boland, Katie Bajzatt, Anna Cervantes. Second row: Noah Watkins, Lupe delaPaz, Grecia Gomez, Ashley Kieltyka, Emilee Kalocinski, Becca Maslikowski.
Third Row: Emily Duha, Caitlin Wrzalinski, Emily Matulewicz, Sandra Silva, Melissa Castellano, Elise Elza. Ms. Hylek, Adviser

Science Olympiad

First row: Charlie Osorio, Berenice Frausto, Haydee Lara, Ilse Jimenez, Edgar Ojeda, Josh Thompson. Second row: Max Mills-Groninger, Wyatt Cowley, Danny Atteberry, Stephen Bajzatt, Emily Duha, Erica Arroyo, Elise Elza. Third row: Kim Atteberry, Ashley Thompson, Melissa Rodriguez, Crystal Godinez, Erica Simunic, Katie Bajzatt. Fourth row: Taylor Pokraka, Phillip Schillaci, Matt Aponte, Bobby Gonzalez, Ryan Willoughby, Phillip Espinoza. Mr. Nichols, Mr. Long, Sponsors

Stats & Managers

First row: Tiffany Bayless, Natalie Mendez, Victoria Franco, Ashley Kieltyka. Second row: Haleigh Suarez, Jennifer Hennessey, Katie Bajzatt, Emily Matulewicz, Christine Cervantes. Third row: Rachel Sherer, Maegan Stribiak, Sarah Perez, Heather Stupek, Lauren Johnson.

Student Council

First row: Victoria Franco, president; Nathan Sabol, vice-president; Becca Maslikowski, treasurer; Steven Coleman, secretary. Mr. Adkins, sponsor

Tattler

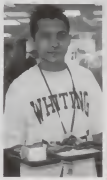
First row: Melanie Stathakis, Samantha Thompson, Maegan Stribiak. Second row: Christabel Gutierrez, Layout Editor Haleigh Suarez, Emily Gazda, Elizabeth Ayon, Araceli Gomez.
Ms. Hylek,
Adviser

PLAY FORWARD REWIND STOP/EJECT PAUSE VOL. UP VOL. DOWN OPEN/CLOSE REPEAT OPEN/CLOSE RECORD

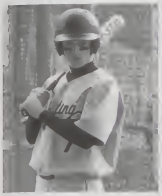
Now Playing...

People

Now Playing...



Above, Freshman Class Officers: Top: Brittany Lupo, president; Emelie Lovasko, secretary; Julianne Stribiak, vice-president; Elizabeth Murzyn, treasurer.



Class of 2011

Freshmen

Gabrielle Aguilera

Matthew Aponte

Jessica Arredondo

Nancy Avila

Elliott Bajda

Stephen Bajzatt

Jasmine Bejar

Amanda Blackwell

Peter Blood

Camilo Campos

Krystal Casanova

Jazmin Castellanos

Guadalupe Cornejo

Erica Cossyleon

Wyatt Cowley

Shanda Crowe

John Dahm

Phillip Espinosa

Jake Foster

Katrina Garcia

Marysol Garcia

Melissa Garza

Haley Gaudette

Joel Gomez

Sandy Gomez

Mayra Gonzalez

Michael. Gonzalez

Roberto Gonzalez

Edward Grotta

Rachel Grunhard

Jennifer Hennessey

Jordan Hennessey

Amanda Isbill

Megan Jakovich

Amanda Johnson

Lauren Johnson

Class of 2011

Megan Kazmierski

Steven Kieltyka

Thomas Kompier

Jonathon Lanman

Luis Lazaro

Jordy Lema

Hannah Leon

Emelie Lovasko

Christopher Lovings

Brittney Lupo

Thomas Lytle

Elizabeth Marin

Melina Marin

Taylor McNinch

Maxwell Mills-Groninger

Miriam Miramontes

Erica Moen

Elizabeth Murzyn

Alexis Ocampo

Edgar Ojeda

John Pennavaria

Eric Perez

Oscar Perez

Rudy Perez

Ashley Pokraka

Emerik Quiroz

Alejandra Reyna

Michael Roldan

Fernando Sahagun

Ignacio Salazar

Ernest Sanchez

Juwan Simmons

Evelyn Skylas

Gabrielle Sparano

Julianne Stribiak

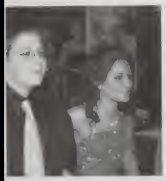
Max Winkleman

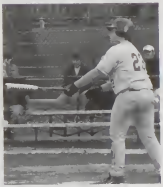
Linda Zamora

Nicholas Zepeda

Now Playing...

Above, Sophomore Class Officers: Ashley Thompson, secretary; Ilse Jimenez, president; Kim Atteberry, treasurer; Sarah Watkins, vice-president.





Class of 2010

Sophomores

David Aguilera

Annamarie Arnold

Kimberly Atteberry

Steven Atteberry

Ryan Augustyn

James Boles

Brittany Bulatovich

Edgar Carrillo

Tracy Casanova

Antonio Cervantes

Christine Cervantes

Juan Cervantes

Richard Cruz

Karan Darji

Krunal Darji

Silvia Delgado

Shelby Eudakis

Maritza Flores

Thomas Flores

Kathleen Franciski

Manuel Galindo

Crystal Godinez

Thomas Grotta

Javier Gutierrez

Sarah Jansky

Ilse Jimenez

Monica Kazmierski

Matthew Keown

Lauren Kieltyka

Aldo Lopez

Class of 2010

Andrew Lowe

Amy Mahony

Lauren McNinch

Michael Misner

Zachary Mora

Sarah Mureiko

Joseph Murzyn

Alexia Obregon

Patrick Percianoff

Rebecca Ramirez

Joseph Raymond

Ariel Reyna

Melissa Rodriguez

Salvador Salazar

Lorena Santos

Rachel Sherer

Enrique Silva

Erica Simunic

Christopher Slater

Katherine Staley

Chelsae Strabavy

Heather Stupeck

Ashley Thompson

Meghan Thompson

Lauren Vega

Monica Vera

Nicole Visinaiz

Stephanie Viveros

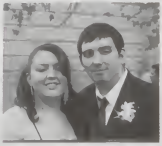
Stephanie Wadkins

Sarah Watkins

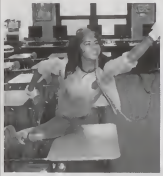
Sarah Wheeler

Jacob Wright

Now Playing...



Above, Junior Class Officers: Caitlin Wrzalinski, secretary; Adrianna Cruz, treasurer; Haleigh Suarez, president; and Phillip Schillaci, vice-president.



Class of 2009

Juniors

Danny Atteberry

Elizabeth Ayon

Katie Bajda

Katherine Bajzatt

Kelsee Boland

Jaclynn Burrgess

Edward Calderon

Anna Cervantes

Melanie Colon

Adrianna Cruz

Zeena Darji

Emily Duha

Melissa Dumezich

Daniel Fishel

Jessica Flores

Berenice Frausto

Bennett Frederick

Eduardo Galaviz

Evelyn Garcia

Thomas Garcia

Vianey Garcia

Victor Garcia

Ashley Garreffa

Emily Gazda

Araceli Gomez

Veronica Gomez

Daniel Green

Christabel Gutierrez

Emily Henricy

Olivia Jakovich

Alexis Jakubowski

Justin Jansky

Julia Kempke

Stacy Kompier

Erin Lawson

Alejandro Leddesma

Christopher Leon

Gabriela Lopez

Class of 2009

Alexis Luna

Daniel Macon

Emily Matulewicz

Maira Medina

Charles Meyers

Theresa Miller

Courtney Moen

Christopher Moynihan

Ricardo Munoz

Kaitlyn Muratori

Julian Nevarez

Jessica Nieto

Samantha Perez

Sarah Perez

Taylor Pokraka

Juanita Ramirez

Daniel Reyes

Anthony Rodriguez

Elizabeth Rodriguez

Eduardo Romero

Michael Salazar

Phillip Schillaci

Sandra Silva

Christine Slivka

Brittany Stoklosa

Maegan Stribiak

Haleigh Suarez

Joshua Thompson

Juan Torres

Michael Unate

Ryan Willoughby

Courtney Winkleman

Caitlin Wrzalinski

Now Playing...

Above, Senior Class Officers: Erica Arroyo, president; Jeremy Dumezich, vice-president; Nathan Sabol, treasurer; Jonathon Lovasko, secretary.

Class of 2008

Lupe delaPaz

Other Schools Attended: George Rogers Clark 1
Activities: Spanish Club 3; Reflector 4; Sectionals Court 4
Likes: Texting, sleeping, eating, laughing, smiling is my favorite.
Dislikes: Mean people, homework, people that don't smile and waking up early.
Future Plans: Go to college, hopefully in downtown Chicago, get a job and become famous!
Other Awards/Achievements: Top Ten and Honor Roll

Alexander James Anastewicz

'Big Al'

Activities: Wrestling 1-2; Gaming Club 1; Homecoming Court 4
Likes: Big lunches, Yoo-Hoo, PLUR, charitable rides home, my lunchtable shamrocks and glow in the dark
Dislikes: Workout supplements, World Gym, crowded rooms, Super Taco, DCS & County Junction and lack of communication.
Future Plans: Attend college at Ivy Tech for electronics.

Activities: Basketball 1; Cross Country 1-3; Football 1; Academic Team 1-4, Science Olympiad 1-4, Booster Club 1-4; Student Council 2-3; Spanish 1, 3; Drama Club 1-4; Sectionals Court 3; Sectionals Queen 4; Prom Princess 4
Likes: Ice cream, pictures, my family, Becca, Tiffany and all my other best friends, Science Olympiad (Mr. Nichols and Mr. Long), cards, Bates Brothers, music, singing and modeling, babies/kids, Miss Guacico, Mr. Pecher, monkeys and Hello Kitty.
Dislikes: Names/fake people, fake tan people, liars, players, when people make fun of other people, jealousy, crazy sports fans and the Chuckie doll
Future Plans: Attend Indiana State University and become an OB-GYN and minor in Spanish.
Other Awards/Achievements: Hoosier Girls State, Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee, Class President, Drama Club President and Booster Club President.

Erica Hunter Arroyo

Activities: Football 1-4; Baseball 2; Wrestling 1-4; Drama Club 2-4; German Club 2-3
Likes: Hanging out with my friends, our lunch table, sports, music, T.V., dinosaurs, Bulldozer, my Russian friend and Big Dub.
Dislikes: Smelly things, Billogta, Dora the Explorer, holes in shoes, crab grass, annoying people and people who complain.
Future Plans: Undecided
Other Awards/Achievements: Wrestling MVP

Matthew Thomas Augustyn

'Mooch'

Seniors

Other Schools Attended: Cristo Rey Jesuit High School 1-2
Activities: Soccer 1-2
Likes: Playing pool, blackjack, poker, $, steak, roller coasters, math, "Superbad, Horseshoe buffet, maps and keeping myself occupied
Dislikes: Biology II, following a routine, senior year, boring conversations, winning now, the emo, people with a big ego and followers.
Future Plans: Attend Depaul University and march to the beat of my own drum. Conquer the business world and become a marketing guru. See the world–Amsterdam. Actually, enjoy life and be down for whatever is clever

Jose Luis Ayala

'Lulu'

Class Motto:
"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe."
Anatole France

Tiffany Taylor Bayless

'Tiffy Taffy, Tiff'

Activities: Tennis 1-4; Manager 2-4; Booster Club 1; Student Council 4; Drama Club 4; German Club 1, 3-4; National Honor Society 3-4; Who's Who 3; Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4
Likes: Music, taking goofy pictures, MySpace, Singstar, Guitar Hero, vitamin water and Erica!
Dislikes: Stupid rules, bad grades, drama, conditioning, riding the bus and the sun.
Future Plans: Be successful!
Other Awards/Achievements: Hoosier Girls State and 2007 Tennis Sectional Champs.

Ashley Lynn Casillas

'Ash, Casillas'

Activities: Spanish Club 1-3
Likes: Soccer, football, baseball, the White Sox, the Bears, hanging out with my friends and family, tanning, Meijer and just having fun.
Dislikes: Tests, homework, working, FINALS, liars and fake people.
Future Plans: Attend Purdue Calumet, become a nurse, have fun and then start a family.

Melissa Liliana Castellano

'Scissors'

Activities: Spanish Club 1-3, Reflections 4, Drama Club & Pom Squad 4
Likes: Music, people, photography, art, sex, [illegible] coffee, rain, sunflowers, morning [illegible], harmony, originality, partying, good movies, friends and dads.
Dislikes: Fake superficial people, getting up early, gas prices, being jobless and broke, T.V., MySpace, arguing, high school, gossip, drama, stereotypes, stellas and compu-lovings.
Future Plans: Attend college at IUPUI, get my nursing degree, start my career, maybe find a good significant other to live happily ever after with and just live life to the fullest.
Other Awards/Achievements: Twosome Academia, All-star for Communication Systems and Honor Roll.

Other Schools Attended: Farragut Career Academy 1
Activities: Booster Club 3, Spanish Club 3
Likes: Drawing, hanging out with friends, going to school and anything else that is fun.
Dislikes: Spiders, clowns, being bored and not having anything to do.
Future Plans: Going to college and study to be a nurse and work in a hospital. Live my life to the fullest and live my very own happy ending.

Jaclyn Cervantes

'Jackie, Jacerlyn'

Activities: Basketball 1-3, Spanish Club 1
Likes: Nots, Dairy Queen, World Gym, pickup trucks, snowboarding, Diet Dr. Pepper, good books, camping, the beach, girls, country music, blue mountains, ESPN, Monster energy drinks, chicken and the Green Bay Packers.
Dislikes: Extremely hot weather, speed-bumps, stop lights, stop signs, speech class, farmers, people who walk slowly, Chinese food, guilt, emotional people, preppy girls and guys.
Future Plans: I plan on joining the U.S. Navy, becoming a firefighter and supporting my family.

Michael Laurence Clark

'Big Dub, Clark'

Steven Coleman

'coleman'

Activities: Basketball 4; Baseball 1-4, Booster Club 2, Student Council 3, Spanish Club 3
Likes: Boneless wings from B-Dubs, baseball, skateboarding, fishing, bags, ice, Corinthians and race, considerate people. **Dislikes:** Broken bones, hospitals, boredom and tomatoes.
Future Plans: Attend college and get a degree in Criminal Justice, buy a house and start a family when I am financially stable, and eventually own a house on a lake and a boat in the near future.
Other Awards/Achievements: Bags Champions and Perfect Attendance (3)

Other Schools Attended: Georgetown Washington High School 1-2
Activities: Volleyball 1
Likes: Hanging out with my friends, having a good time, summer, the beach and traveling.
Dislikes: Two-faced people, rude and annoying people and fish.
Future Plans: Go to college, graduate with a bachelor's degree, get married at 25, have a family at 27 and live life to the fullest.

Leticia Delgado

'Leti'

Other Schools Attended: Socorro High School 1
Activities: Spanish Club 3
Likes: Mr. Evon, Mr. Milenkoff, shopping, summer, talking on the phone, Texas, Colby Odonis, Ms. Hylek, pizza, and chicken alfredo.
Dislikes: Winter, fake people, jealousy, math and school.
Future Plans: Attend college at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).

Lorena Delgado

John Denkovich II

Activities: Golf 2
Likes: Fishing, powerlifting, [illegible] 'n'bass, Tasty Buffet, my band and true friends.
Dislikes: Raw tomatoes, miscommunication and makeup.
Future Plans: Go to a community college, apprentice in carpentry or the Coast Guard.

Jeremy Dumezich
'Will'

Activities: Basketball 1,3, Football 1,4, Baseball 1,4; Booster Club 3; Student Council 4; Chinese Club 2; Homecoming Court 1
Likes: Football, baseball, basketball, the summer, my dog, weight lifting, sleeping, Chubs a.k.a. Drobes, Nasty Nate, Joe, Lyasko, Biggie Smalls, Ba Jilla, NCAA Football and Basketball, 219 and bumping 'hacy' down the 119
Dislikes: Stuck-up people, soccer, penalty sprints, not being first, "If you're not first, you're last," bad decisions and curfews
Future Plans: Go to college, have a wonderful family and a great job
Other Awards/Achievements: Baseball–1st Team All-Conference (2), 1st Team All-Area (3), 2nd Team All-Conference (3), Class A Regional Champions (4), Football–1st Team All-Conference (3,4) and LAC Blue Champions (1,2), Class A Regional Baseball Champions (4)

Elise Eltzo
'Maria'

Activities: Tennis 1-4; Mathematics Olympiad 4; Science Olympiad 4; Spanish Club 1,3; Reflector 4; Drama Club 3-4; National Honor Society 3-4; Who's Who 1-4, Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4
Likes: Sports, cars, having fun, dancing, weird sayings "I'm smiling, that alone should scare you," taking pictures, Spanish and sunsets.
Dislikes: Cocky people, dead people, meat loaf, people who think they're funny when they're not, being in pictures and people who talk about their "friends" behind their backs.
Future Plans: Attend Bethal College for nursing, get a job and buy a car

Activities: Choir 3, Spanish Club 1, Reflector 3
Likes: The Constitution, knowledge and freedom.
Dislikes: The New World Order
Future Plans: Attend Purdue Calumet for two years, get married and move to Monticello.

Alicia Marie Fourtress

Activities: Fixeball 1,4; Baseball 1, Wrestling 1-4; Academic Team 2-4; Spanish Club 1,3; Drama Club 3-4; Homecoming Court 1; Homecoming King 4
Likes: Football, wrestling, music, having fun, the Billdozer and, of course, Fernando.
Dislikes: Billsyta, the dark place and not being around Fernando.
Future Plans: Go to Indiana State University, get my degree in construction management and eventually get married to the girl of my dreams.

Adam Flores

Victoria Franco
'Vic, Frank the Tank'

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Volleyball 1-4; Softball 1-4; Star Person 2-3, Academic Team 1-4, Science Olympiad 1, Booster Club 1-4; Student Council 1-4, Spanish Club 1,3; Drama Club 3-4, National Honor Society 3-4; Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4; Homecoming Court 4, Homecoming Queen 4
Likes: Sox, Cubs, family, friends, Friday night football games, food, class of 2008, sports, weekends and my junior teammates
Dislikes: Mean people, bullies, bugs, feet and spiders
Future Plans: Attend Purdue Lafayette, graduate college, start my career, get married, have children, be successful and live a happy life
Other Awards/Achievements: Volleyball MVP (4), Class A Softball State Champions (2,4)

Activities: Football 1-4, Spanish Club 1,3, Drama Club 4
Likes: Everything about football, hanging out with friends, my lunch table, working out, being Russian, watching movies, cold weather, high school, laughing, good times, random stuff and my buddies: Nate, Will, Adam, Mosch, Alex, Bill, Jon, Zach and Haleigh.
Dislikes: Bad decisions, annoying people, McDonald's, people who think the world revolves around them and penalty sprints
Future Plans: Graduate from college with a degree, get a good job; then, depending on how I feel after college, have eye surgery so I may become a U. S. Navy Seal, get married, have five kids and enjoy life to the fullest.
Other Awards/Achievements: Football–4 Time Varsity letter winner, G.S.S.C. 1st Team All-Conference (4), Captain (4), Defensive Digger (4), Defensive MVP (4) and LAC Blue Champions (1,2).

Joseph Robert Franko
'The Russian, Franker'

Activities: Tennis 1; Booster Club 3-4; Spanish Club 1,3
Likes: Hanging out with friends and being goofy.
Dislikes: Liars, cheaters and people who think they know everything.
Future Plans: Go away for school.

Jessica Marie Garcia

Grecia Gomez

Activities: Booster Club 3, Student Council 1, Reflector 4, Drama Club 4
Likes: Mr. Hylek, shopping, getting my nails done, eating, the color purple, purses, candy, boys, dancing, laughing, ice cream, popcorn, romantic movies, the beach, roller blading, being with Haylee, Claudia and Melanie. "Mean Girls," "The Notebook," Friday nights with Haylee and Claudia, David Beckham and Saturdays.
Dislikes: Cats, running, sports, homework, Haylee flirting with me, emo people, liars, computers, people touching my hair, Little Caesars, short hair, Chinese food, bugs and Mondays.
Future Plans: Go to school, get married at 24, have twins and live happily ever after

Activities: Basketball 1, 3; Cross Country 1-3; Spanish Club 1, 3; Homecoming Court 2.
Likes: Food, sleeping, summer, sports and the BEACH!!
Dislikes: Winter and homework.
Future Plans: Get a four-year degree in business from Purdue and open my own establishment.
Other Awards/Achievements: Boys State and Honor Roll.

Jonathan Darrell Hayes
'Darrell, Tree'

Activities: Booster Club 3-4, Spanish Club 1-3, Drama Club 3-4, Band 1-4, Choir 2-4
Likes: Singing, acting, dancing, smiling, laughing, friends, family, kids, all kinds of fun and my best friends, Letisha Delgado, Liz Ayers and Mike Roldan. They are the best people you will ever meet!
Dislikes: People who always have something to say, fake people and when people try to make my choices
Future Plans: I plan to work for the summer and year of 2009, go to a great fine arts school for music and acting for four years and then start living the good life!
Other Awards/Achievements: A letter in fine arts, choir, band and drama.

Jane Anne Joraan
'Jane Jane, Big J'

Emilee Jeanne Kalocinski
'Em'

Activities: Cheerleading 1-4; Spanish Club 1; Reflector 3-4; Homecoming Court 3; Sectionals Court 4
Likes: Dane Cook, Channing Tatum, movies, music, Weezy F. Baby, my best friends [B.E.D.S.], cheerleading, Friday night lights, the summer, the beach, my car "the Black Stallion," B-Dubs, trips to the gas station with Noah and Steven, laughing, smiling, shopping, cute text messages and dancing.
Dislikes: Bugs, feet, eggs, stuck-up girls, liars, cheaters, George W. Bush, people who can't think for themselves, the color purple, fish, being told what to do, writing papers and cold weather
Future Plans: Attend IUPUI or Ivy Tech for nursing or to be a medical assistant, transfer to Ball State or IU, Bloomington, graduate college, have the time of my life, marry Prince Charming and be amazingly happy

Class Song:
"Still Fly"

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Volleyball 1-4, Softball 1-4, Stat Person 1-4, Science Olympiad 1-2, Booster Club 1-4, Student Council 3, Spanish Club 1-3, Reflector 4, National Honor Society 3-4, Kouzins Top Ten 3-4, Sectionals Court 3
Likes: Sports, family, friends, the color pink, Friday night football games, weekends, Sox, shopping, summer and the BEACH
Dislikes: Waking up early for school and summer conditioning, writing papers, cold weather and homework
Future Plans: I plan to go to Calumet College, play basketball, get my degree in Elementary Education, marry the man of my dreams and live happily ever after.
Other Awards/Achievements: Volleyball–2nd Team All-Conf., All-Area Honorable Mention, Sectional Champions (4), Basketball–1st Team All-Conf., 2nd Team All-Area (4), Softball–1st Team All-Conf (3), 2006 and 2008 State Champions and 12-Time Varsity letter winner

Ashley Marie Kieltyka

Haylee Lara
'Asian'

Activities: Academic Team 4, Science Olympiad 2-4, Booster Club 3, Spanish Club 1, Drama Club 3-4, National Honor Society 3-4, Who's Who 3-4, Kouzins Top Ten 3-4
Likes: Bilmouaurs, the park, bows, candy, movies about Mexican gangsters, tat Friday's, T-Pain and renting "Mean Girls" with Grecia, Claudia and Erica.
Dislikes: Dramatic people, jerks (when they're mean to people who don't deserve it), mustard, papercuts, when Mr. Nichols uses my mom as an example of a chunk feeder and when Claudia beats me up.
Future Plans: Go to the University of Indianapolis, graduate with honors, work at the FBI in the forensics department and adopt a son
Awards/Achievements: National Honor Society, Salutatorian, Bausch & Lomb Science Award, Who's Who Among Science, Drama Club varsity letter and my personal favorite, 30 Science Olympiad medals

Jonathan Lovasko
'Lovask'

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Football 1-4, Baseball 1-4, Wrestling 3-4, Academic Team 1-4, Science Olympiad 1-3, Student Council 1, Spanish Club 1, German Club 3, Sectionals Court 4
Likes: Long walks on the beach, winning, Chubs, women, Friday night lights, my dog, Tony Banilla, Mr. Romero, car sledgehall and baseball
Dislikes: West Central, seafood, Triton, losing, nowadays, wrestling, conditioning, hot days and haters
Future Plans: Attend Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, play baseball there, graduate with a business degree and eventually, take over my dad's studio.
Awards/Achievements: William Rebey Scholarship, All-Conference Honorable Mention for baseball and football, 2nd Team All-Conference for baseball and football and LAL Blue Champions for football (1-2). Class A Regional Baseball Champions (4)

Activities: Cheerleading 2-4; Science Olympiad 1-2, Spanish Club 1, 3; Reflector 3; Drama Club 1
Likes: B.E.D.S., random moments, laughing, B-Dubs, tanning, naps, reading, Derks Bentley, Dane Cook and working at Rebeca's.
Dislikes: Fake people, drama, shots, fighting, feet, Rokicki's gootee and Prom '07.
Future Plans: Go to Indiana State University, marry the man of my dreams, have three kids and live happily ever after!

Dana Christine Lupo

Amber Leeanne Lytle

'Banu, Banue'

Likes: English, reading and Mc
Dislikes: Math because numbers
my head.
Future Plans: Go to college, get
married, have kids and a house with
white picket fence.
Other Awards/Achievements: I am
usually #1 on the readup list.

Rebecca Lee Modkowski

'Becca, Boo'

Activities: Volleyball
Cheerleading 2-4, Beta Club 3-4, Student
Council 4, Spanish Club 1, Prom Committee 4
Homecoming Court 4, Rally 1-4
Likes: Music, Dairy Queen, shopping, sing
cheerleading, tennis, hilfiger, the smell
ning, "Grease", shoes, Erica
Mr. Hack, new teachers, having fun
after school, art and movies.
Dislikes: Liars, fake people, feet, jelly
minimum wage, bugs, homework, drama
Whining weather, smelly cities, Crocs, AP
tests, mullets and people who can't dress
right.
Future Plans: Attend college, meet Prince
Charming, become successful, get married
and live happily ever after somewhere
a palm tree.
Other Awards/Achievements: Gold
medal at state for ISSMA and Cheerleading
Captain.

Activities: Basketball 1-4; Softball 1-4; Mat Maid 1-4; Manager 1-4; Academic Team 1; Booster Club 1-2; Choir 1-4; Spanish Club 1-2; Drama Club 3
Likes: Football, basketball, softball, wrestling, food, dancing, summer and BOYS.
Dislikes: Cheaters, liars, backstabbers, two-faced people, unathletic people and fake people.
Future Plans: Attend college, get married and eventually settle down and have kids.
Other Awards/Achievements: 2006 and 2008 Undefeated State Softball Champions

Natalie Michelle Mendez

Mendez, Green Eyes'

Activities: Tennis 1-4; Cheerleading 1-4; Academic Team 2-4; Spanish Club 1,3; Drama Club 1; National Honor Society 3-4; Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4; Homecoming Court 4
Likes: Tennis, dance, cheerleading, and sports.
Dislikes: Ignorance, country music and procrastinating.
Future Plans: Attend Ball State University, become a pediatric nurse and have a successful life.
Other Awards/Achievements: National Honor Society and Academic All-Conference.

Michelle Marie

Santiago Neto

'Jimmy'

Activities: Football 2-3; Golf 3-4; Science Olympiad 3; German Club 2
Likes: Football, golf, math and hanging out with friends.
Dislikes: People who are stuck-up.
Future Plans: Go to college and then work at BP.

Activities: Football 1-2; Student Council 2-3; Drama Club 2,4
Likes: Da Bears, Nathan Will, Ric Jilla, Mr. Adkins, the cottage, fishing, rides in the Buick, Ann W., protein, art, Cubs, Mr. Milenkoff, Ms. Hylek, Miss Guaccio, hot women, Blue mountains and Biggie Smalls.
Dislikes: School, haters, maternal girls, yuppies, hippies, environmentalists, tree-huggers and Photoshop.
Future Plans: Go to college, have fun in life, find a wife and have kids.

Zachary O'Drowak

'Chubs, Chubby'

Other Schools Attended: Carl Schurz 1
Activities: Academic Team 3-4; Science Olympiad 3-4; Spanish Club 3; Drama Club 2-4; Who's Who 2-4; Prom King 4
Likes: Techno music, being random, having fun, meeting new people and hanging out with new friends.
Dislikes: Serious people, swimming, angry people and apple juice.
Future Plans: Go to the University of Indianapolis and become a chemist.

Charlie Osorio

'Charles, Papi Chulo'

Aubrey Lynn Ostrowski

'Aub, Aubs'

Activities: Booster Club 4; Spanish Club 3; Reflector 4
Likes: Music, m, friends, the color green, reading, the Bears, the Sox, green tea, M&M's, Starbucks, Italian food, going to concerts, bands, boys in bands, the History Channel, "Nip/Tuck" and "The Office
Dislikes: Liars, arrogance, judgmental people, snakes, the Cubs, the Packers, waking up early, drama, backstabbers and when people don't make eye contact with you when you're talking to them
Future Plans: Attend Aurora University, major in communications and minor in either English or marketing, hopefully work for a music-inspired magazine, travel the world and live life to the fullest.

Activities: Football 1-4, Baseball 1-4, Booster Club 1-4, Spanish Club 1, Drama Club 4
Likes: Freedom of much or no things, playing football, hanging out with my friends, running the Pubs, the beach, pickles, [illegible] dresses, Mr [illegible] people, having good [illegible] Panda Express and talking on the phone.
Dislikes: Chores, homework, math, two-faced people, the grass, cheerleading, bad teeth, when [illegible] gum in my mouth, loud screaming music, taking the garbage out, superior figures, split ends and immaturity.
Future Plans: Travel the world, accomplish the things I want to do, eventually settle down, get married and have a family.
Other Awards/Achievements: Winning [illegible] softball 1-4, and a winning volleyball [illegible] (4)

Samantha Ann Plavec
'Kathy, Plavec'

Activities: Softball 4, Band 1-3, Choir 2, Tattler 2
Likes: Knowledge, the Cubs, laughing, photos, Lady, Ernie, imaginations, traveling, the moon, stars, space, cream of chicken soup, the beach at night, Miss Guaccio and Mrs. Hylek.
Dislikes: Stepping on magical doggie piles, getting up for school, spiders, wearing one sock, wedgies and silly girls and boys.
Future Plans: No plans, just live with my mother forever, OMG!
But really, I don't have any plans.
Other Awards/Achievements: Band Awards

Natalie Jean Prokop
'Nat'

William Pustek
'Bulldozer'

Activities: Football 4; Baseball 1; Science Olympiad 3; Student Council 1; Spanish Club 1
Likes: Playing guitar, long walks on the 119, blue mountains and Big Duh.
Dislikes: Diets, vegetarians, mountain climbing and the color yellow.
Future Plans: I would like to travel to the moon.

Michael Rokicki
'Kiki, Dirty Mike'

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Football 2-4, Baseball 1-4, Science Olympiad 1-2, Student Council 1,2,4, Spanish Club 1-3, Drama Club 2-4, National Honor Society, 3-4, Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4, Homecoming Court 3, Sectionals Court 4, Prom Prince 3
Likes: My Chubs, mountains, women, Mr Adkins, long walks on the beach, the cottage, my Corvette, sports, shrubbery, my lunch table, Friday night lights, Miss Guaccio and Bugsie Smalls.
Dislikes: Carmen, rabbits, kangaroos, Ramsey, school, Triton, West Central, Morgan Township, grapes and Chubs headbutts.
Future Plans: Attend Calumet College, play baseball for them, major in Criminal Justice and become an FBI agent.
Other Awards/Achievements: Michael Ramirez Scholarship, All-Conference Academic for basketball and football, All-Conference Honorable Mention for football and Sportsmanship Banquet Scholarship, Class A Regional Baseball Champions (4)

Nathan Scott Saad
'Nasty Nate, Nate Jilla'

Melanie Teresa Stathakis
'Lane, Mel'

Activities: Tennis 1-4; Spanish Club 1,3; Tattler 4
Likes: Shopping, my iPod, the Cubs, tennis, my camera, my cell phone, watching T.V., hanging out with my family and friends and hearing Grecia tell me I have beautiful hair.
Dislikes: Bugs, waking up early, gyms, Mondays and homework.
Future Plans: Attend Purdue Calumet, meet the man of my dreams, get married and keep living my perfect life.
Other Awards/Achievements: Tennis MVP (2), 1st Place in the Hammond Tournament (2,3), Tennis Honorable Mention (2) and Tennis Sectional Champions (3).

Samantha Thompson
'Sam'

Activities: Tennis 1-4; Star Person 2, Academic Team 1-4, Tattler 3-4, German Club 2-4, National Honor Society 3-4, Who's Who 3, Kiwanis Top Ten 3-4
Likes: Tennis, literature, hanging out with friends, winning, teasing Melanie, talking, hugging and smiling.
Dislikes: Mean people, cheating, spaghetti and frowning.
Future Plans: Attend the University of Indianapolis to pursue a degree in Elementary Education.
Other Awards/Achievements: National Leadership and Service Award, National Science Merit Award, National Honor Roll and Who's Who Among American High School Students.

Class Colors: Silver, Green and Black

Activities: Tennis 1; Cheerleading 1-4; Boosters Club 2-4; Student Council 1; Spanish Club 1-3; Drama Club 3-4; Homecoming Court 4
Likes: Fashion, Chinese food, movie nights, get-togethers for the AP Chem class at Charlie's house, chocolate, the "Shoes" video by Erica, Taylor, Danny, Hayden, Charlie and I, and Friday night football games
Dislikes: High school drama, controlling people, AP Chemistry homework packets and the severe weather drill
Future Plans: Get my nursing degree at IUSB, open businesses, get rich, live in downtown Chicago, travel, marry an amazing guy and maybe have children
Other Awards/Achievements: All-American Cheerleading Award and Varsity Cheerleading Captain.

Claudia Torres
"Claudia"

Class Slogan
"Do It Big"

John Tustison

Brock Justin Vde
"B-Man, B"

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Football 1-4, Baseball 1-4; German Club 1-3; Sectionals Court 1
Likes: Chicago Bears, football, sports, church, the Cubs, singing, family and friends, music, the Red Sox, Valpo University and bourbon chicken
Dislikes: Green Bay Packers, Triton, West Central, and most country music.
Future Plans: Go to Valpo University for college and play football there, be a youth minister, and hopefully coach football
Other Awards Achievements: IFCA 1st Team All-State, AP 1st Team All-State, Herald Times 1st Team All-State, and 1st Team All-Conference, Class A Regional Baseball Champions (4)

Activities: Spanish Club 1-3; Booster Club 1-2
Likes: Food, sports, friends, music, concerts and road trips.
Dislikes: Gossipers, outlines, waking up early and compulsive liars.
Future Plans: Go to college, graduate, get a decent job and live happily ever after.

Amy Vanns

Activities: Basketball 1-4, Baseball 1-4; Science Olympiad 1-3; Spanish Club 1-3; Homecoming Court 4; Sectionals Court 4, Sectionals King 4
Likes: Playing guitar, sleeping, getting money, playing sports, hanging out with friends, basketball, football, baseball, listening to music, relaxing, being out of the house, talking on the phone, texting and a bunch of other stuff
Dislikes: Country music, waiting, being lied to, annoying people, homework, being sick, being pinched, not knowing what to do, hard decisions, slow drivers and being stuck in my house.
Future Plans: Go to Indiana University, get a degree, get a good successful life going and live life to the fullest.
Other Awards/Achievements: Boys State; Academic All-Conference in basketball . Class A Regional Baseball Champions (4)

Timothy William Wagrodz
"Dirk, Wag"

Noah Robert Watkins
"Derby, Duerbs"

Other School Attended: East Chicago Central 1
Activities: Basketball 2-3; Football 3; Baseball 2-3; Spanish Club 3; Reflector 4
Likes: Hanging out with friends, basketball, skateboarding, money, tattoos, blue mountains, my daughter, fishing, nbs, and women.
Dislikes: Snitches, stuck-up yuppies, MySpace, two-faced people and liars.
Future Plans: Further my education so I can get a good job and support my daughter and myself.
Other Awards/Achievements: LAC Blue Honorable Mention in basketball (3).

Class Flower:
Daisy

Class of 2008

Billboard

Top 10 Seniors

1

Victoria Franco

"KUNG FU FIGHTING"

Future Plans: Go to Purdue University.

2

Haydee Lara

"THE SCIENTIST"

Future Plans: Go to the University of Indianapolis to study chemistry.

3

Tiffany Bayless

"LIVIN' LA VIDA LOCA"

Future Plans: Go to Purdue University Calumet.

4

Nathan Sabol

"REAL BIG"

Future Plans: Go to Calumet College and study criminal justice.

5

Samantha Thompson

"DON'T BLINK"

Future Plans: Go to the University of Indianapolis to study elementary ed.

6

Michelle Mirza

"HEY MICKEY"

Future Plans: Go to Ball State and study pediatric nursing.

7

Lupe delaPaz

"I GET MONEY"

Future Plans: Go to Calumet College or Purdue Calumet.

8

Ashley Kieltyka

"BARBIE GIRL"

Future Plans: Go to Calumet College to study elementary education.

9

Elise Elza

"REFLECTION"

Future Plans: Go to Bethel College and study nursing.

10

Tim Wajvoda

"STAY FLY"

Future Plans: Go to Indiana University Bloomington.

"I'm Doing Time for Being Young..."

1. "When I fell on my behind in a junior year basketball game... TWICE!!!"

2. "When I dropped my tray and got cheese all over my pant leg and yelled at Amy for it."

3. "Spending time with my friends and being immature with my twin, Elise."

4. "All of my football and wrestling events and winning Homecoming King."

5. "When I accidentally put hot glue on my fingers and my first reaction was grabbing Haydee's arm--we both started screaming"

6. "Be happy for this moment: This time is your life."

7. "TPing with the senior class cheerleaders and senior year homecoming week."

8. "In our freshman gym class we went swimming and Sam T. almost drowned after bragging about being a perfect swimmer."

9. "When I kicked Joe Franko during gym and my lunch table."

10. "Junior year when I experienced many hardships that really helped me mature."

11. "Dan's Claw."

12. "Any time in Mr. Adkins' class"

1. Michael Clark. 2. Jaclyn Cravatne. 3. Lupe daBar. 4. Adam Flores. 5. Greta Gonzo. 6. Joe Ayala. 7. Tiffany Bryless. 8. Amber Lyle. 9. Alexander Auszewicz. 10. Erica Amyot. 11. John Demowych. 12. Ashley Gaither.

Seniors' Favorite Memories and Quotes

13. "Winning Homecoming Queen and decorating the school for homecoming."

14. "Cutting off my hair."

15. "Fourth hour with Haydee Lara, 'Edwardo' and tripping over a bag of footballs."

16. "My lunch table, the HIGH SCHOOL experience, and the 2007 football season."

17. "Any moment spent in Mr. Adkins' class."

18. "When I left a trap for Natalie in the bathroom."

19. "Big Dub slipped twice in the Morton basketball game."

20. "Mrs. Mindas' ceramics class; we all would just talk about random stuff and laugh."

21. "Beating South Central in our first sectional game my senior year without seven of our starters."

22. "All the fun times with my friends."

23. "Every moment that deals with me is a memorable one."

24. "Chub's various hilarious phrases and my lunch table."

13 Victoria Franco. 14. William Pineda. 15 Elise Ezza. 16. Joseph Frausto. 17. Aubrey Ostrowski. 18. Alicia Fraticas. 19. Timothy Wayoube. 20 Louisha Delgado. 21. Brock Vale. 22. Amy Vanna. 23. Melanie Sandoval. 24. Nathan Sabol

25. "Having fun during homecoming week with all the seniors!!"

26. "When I shoved Michael Clark after lunch and he did the splits trying to catch himself."

27. "Random times I can't remember. Basically anytime I ever laughed."

28. "Trying to decorate the Christmas tree outside the office with Tiffany and Diana."

29. "When we beat South Central in the first round of football sectionals with only 29 players."

30. "Winning state for softball and going undefeated my sophmore and senior year."

31. "Senior year, Earth/Space and sports."

32. "At the football game against Wheeler I blurted how cute a certain new teacher was."

33. "Winning sectionals for tennis, TPing for the football players and performing at the Capital One Bowl.

34. "When I gave Nate a headbutt."

35. "Being with all my friends and my lunch table."

36. "Going to Europe my senior year and being with all my friends."

25. Jessica Garcia, 26. Joselyn Reyes, 27. Natalie Pulido, 28. Samantha Thompson, 29. Jordyn Lovasko, 30. Natalie Mendez, 31. Michael Kolecki, 32. Rebecca Mashikowski, 33. Zachary O'Donohue, 35. Lorena Delgado, 36. Samiago Nieto

37. "The summer of 2005 when I transferred to a completely different school."

38. "When I got called 'a weird little thing' by Mrs. Mindas after I was hiding from the nurse."

39. "When Emilee was dancing to the Norwegian Wood song at the home basketball games."

40. "My cheerleading games, my lunch table and just being with my friends every single day."

41. "High school, the lunch table and my friends."

42. "When I walked across the stage at graduation and received the key to starting my life."

43. "Winning state in softball twice and winning sectionals in volleyball."

44. "Dominating the bags tournament and breaking my leg right before my senior year."

45. "Trashing the school using my old washing machine and other completely ridiculous things we found."

46. "The last football game with Emilee and dumping water bottles over each other's heads during the game."

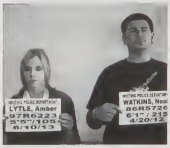
47. "Homecoming senior year, when my class TP'd the school and everyone went home covered in shaving cream."

48. "My most memorable high school moment would be winning state for softball, twice."

37. Jessica Kempter, 38. Hayden Lara, 39. Cinthy Osorio, 40. Emilee Kalconitis, 41. Matthew Augustyn, 42. Jamie Jordan, 43. Ashley Kielbyka, 44. Steven Ostrman, 45. Melissa Castellano, 46. Diana Lupo, 47. Claudia Torres, 48. Samantha Flavoc

Ideal

MOST LIKELY TO END UP ON COPS
Amber Lytle &
Noah Watkins



MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED
Nathan Sabol &
Haydee Lara

MOST OUTGOING
Erica Arroyo
&
Adam Flores

QUIETEST
Amy Vanna

MOST CHANGED
Haydee Lara &
Tim Wajvoda

MOST LIKELY TO BE LATE FOR GRADUATION
John Demkovich &
Claudia Torres

MOST DRAMATIC
Jonathan Hayes &
Michelle Mirza

BEST EYES
Samantha Plavec
& Nathan Sabol

MOST ARGUMENTATIVE
Steven Coleman &
Samantha Plavec

WORST DRIVER
Michelle Mirza &
Zach O'Drobinak

MOST CREATIVE
Tim Wajvoda & Natalie Prskalo

MOST SCHOOL SPIRITED
Mike Rokicki &
Victoria Franco

BEST SMILE
Rebecca Maslikowski & Brock Vale

BIGGEST FLIRT
Brock Vale & Lupe delaPaz

BEST LAUGH
Michael Clark & Tiffany Bayless

BIGGEST AIRHEAD
Jeremy Dumezich & Erica Arroyo

CLASS CLOWN
Natalie Prskalo & Noah Watkins

LAZIEST
Class of 2008

BIGGEST MYSPACER
Emilee Kalocinski & Michael Rokicki

MOST SARCASTIC
Joe Franko & Samantha Plavec

MOST ATHLETIC
Jeremy Dumezich & Ashley Kieltyka

BEST PERSONALITY
Nathan Sabol, Victoria Franco & Claudia Torres

MOST DOWN TO EARTH
Joe Franko & Diana Lupo

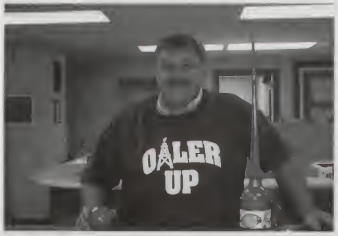
MOST TALKATIVE
Zach O'Drobinak & Grecia Gomez

Seniors

Administration & Staff

Superintendent
Dr. Sandra Martinez

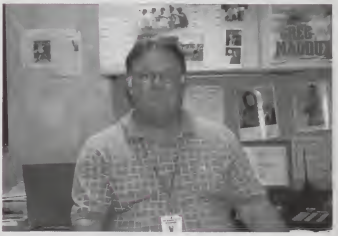
2007-2008 School Board
Trustees



Mr. Dirk Flick
Principal

Mr. Jay Harker
Interim Principal

Mr. Robert Klosek
School Counselor



Mr. Bruce Stewart
Truancy Officer

Mr. Joseph Curosh, School Attorney

Central Office Staff

Mrs. Lucy Leyba & Mrs. Linda Wilson, Office Staff

Mrs. Ernestine Sanchez, Nurse

Mr. Don Kaminsky, IT Director

Mr. Pete Protolipac, IT Assistant

Ms. Michelle Szala & Ms. Leta Francisco, Operations

Maintenance

Cafeteria Staff: Christine Lerma, Director

Transportation

Faculty

Mr.Don Adkins, Social Studies

Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson, German

Ms. Kathy Baxter, Special Education

Mr. Jeff Cain, Industrial Tech.

Mrs. Margaret Elza, Special Ed. Aide

Ms. Kathryn Flaris, English

Miss Betty Guaccio, English

Ms. Laura Gulvas, Special Ed. Aide

Mrs. Kathy Herochik, Math

Ms. Regina Hylek,
English

Mrs. Marina Klochan,
Spanish

Mr. Paul Laub, Math,
Athletic Director

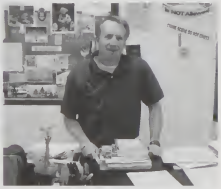
Mr. Kevin Lenz, Math

Mr. Jeremy Long, Science

Mr. Derrick Milenkoff, Social Studies

Mrs. Rena Mindas, Art

Mr. Kevin Moynihan, English



Mr. Dan Nichols, Science

Mr. Patrick Pecher, Band/Choir

Mr. Joel Romero, Industrial Tech.

Mr. Rob Segudovic, Phys. Education

Ms. Beverly Sheldon,
Librarian

Mrs. Elva Sotello,
Computer Applications

Above, Mr. Nichols takes Michael Unate through the steps of a lab during Bio II.

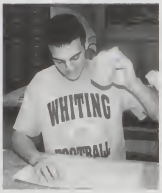
NOW PLAYING...

ACADEMICS

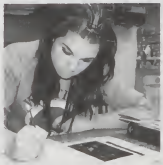
"The colors of the Wind..."

ART: CERAMICS

Left, Junior Sarah Perez is molding her ceramics project.
Right, Junior Ashley Garreffa is tracing the picture for her scratchboard.



Above, Junior Charles Meyers is making sure there are no air bubbles in the clay.
Below, Adding glaze to her cheesecake in her sixth hour class is senior Ashley Kieltyka.



Left, Junior Jessica Flores creates her ceramic ice cream cone.
Below, Cutting a perfect circle for his suncatcher is junior Danny Reyes.

Above, Junior Erin Lawson concentrates on her scratchboard.
Left, Senior Jackie Cervantes is making her gingerbread house.

Right, Mrs. Mindas assists juniors Richard Cruz and Ricardo Muñoz on their assignments.

Above, Junior Daniel Fishel is working on getting his project done before his deadline.

Right, Mrs. Mindas explains directions to junior Edward Calderon.

Right, Junior Zeena Darji is getting the right dimensions on her project.

Right, Junior Alexis Jakubowski adds detail to her board.

"My favorite class is ceramics I'm always looking forward for new projects." senior Letisha Delgado

"I like the fact that art is a relaxed environment and you get to work at your own pace." senior Billy Pustek

"I like ceramics because it's a fun class and you learn a lot of new artistic things." senior Victoria Franco.

"I like ceramics because of the fun projects and Mrs. Mindas." senior Aubrey Ostrowski

"What I like the best is the feeling I get when our audience applauds after our performance."
junior Liz Ayon

"I like being in band because I get to see all my friends and learn the music."
freshman
Rachel Grunhard

"What I enjoy most about choir is all the cool songs we sing for the concerts."
sophomore
Matt Keown

"I like being able to interact with everyone in band and having a great time."
senior
Charley Osorio

BAND/CHOIR

Left, Junior Liz Rodriguez follows her music as she plays before the game.

Left, The choir performs "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" at this year's Madrigal dinner.

Right, Senior Rebecca Masliczowski shows off her first place medal that she won down at state for her solo.

Above Mr. Pecher counts out loud so that the band can keep the right tempo and follow the drummer.

Above, Junior Kaitlyn Muratori plays the baritone during the home football game against the Clark Pioneers.

Left, The choir gathers around Mr. Pecher as he plays "Down to the River to Pray" on the piano while they sing.

Left, Sophmore Katherine Staley plays the school song during the homecoming bonfire.

Left, Enthusiastically playing "On Broadway," the high school band marches down the street during the homecoming parade.

Right, The choir stands in the locker room showers during warm-ups so that they can hear themselves a little better as they practice their music.

Left, These choir members earned medals at the ISSMA competition in Munster.

Left, Mr. Pecher watches junior Evelyn Garcia as she plays the "Hey Song" during a short break at a home basketball game.

Right, Lying on the floor to get better air support, choir members warm up by singing a scale and buzzing their lips.

"once you're with the music, it becomes addiction..."

"ABC... as easy as 1-2-3, or as simple as do-re-mi..."

Above, Sophomore Antonio Cervantes checks over his work as Ms. Hylek recites the correct answers to the class.

Right, Seniors Noah Watkins and Natalie Mendez set a good example by not wasting time and getting a head start on their English 12 homework.

Above, Sophomore Jacob Wright presents his visually appealing *Fahrenheit 451* poster board

Below, Katherine Staley exhibits her mechanical hound she prepared for her *Fahrenheit 451* project.

Left, Concentrating on the lesson being taught is Roberto Gonzalez. Below, Senior Letisha Delgado works meticulously in class.

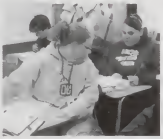
Above, Junior Katie Bajda attentively reads "Dr. Heidegger's Experiment" along with the class.

Left, Senior Matt Augustyn learns proper comma use.

Above, Sophomore Amy Mahony displays her collage made up of all the various things she is grateful for.

Right, Brittany Bulatovich and Jackie Burrgess act out Jackie's cereal commercial in speech.

Right, Seniors Ashley Casillas and Jaclyn Cervantes find the answer together.



Right, Mr. Moynihan congratulates freshman Jazmin Castellanos.

Right, Freshman Gabrielle Aguilera listens to the lesson in English 9.

"My favorite piece of literature would have to be 'The Masque of the Red Death' by Edgar Allen Poe."
junior
Michael Salazar

"My favorite piece of literature has to be *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck. It's just one of those stories you can really get into."
sophomore
Heather Stupeck

"English 12 was not your regular English class. Rating our weekends and having Ms. Flaris watch over us made it a chill (cool) class."
senior Luis Ayala

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

"I like talking back and forth in Spanish in front of the class."
freshman
Ashley Pokraka

"My favorite German saying would have to be "*Ich liebe Pommes*" because it means I love French fries!"
junior Katie Muratori

"I really like all of the fun projects we do in Spanish class!"
sophomore
Annamarie Arnold

Left, Sophomores kneel in front of their creation.

Left, Senior girls take a lovely picture together in their Spanish IV class.

Above, Mrs. Anderson teaches how to conjugate verbs to her responsive German II class.

Above, Juniors Katie Muratori, Christabel Gutierrez, Kelsee Boland and Liz Ayon together build a gingerbread house in German.

Below, Sophomores quickly and quietly take down German notes to use for a test they will be taking.

Above, Sophomore Annamarie Arnold performs her *Usted* command recipe project before the class.

Left, Freshman carolers went from classroom to classroom singing various Christmas songs in German to help spread holiday cheer.

Left, German II copies notes from the board.
Right, Sophomores display their hallway project.

Left, Alexis Jakubowski, Adi Cruz and Jessica Flores pose with their winning pinata in Spanish III.

Left, These juniors look as if they are really enjoying this pretzel which was made to represent the German Club for the homecoming parade.
Right, Sophomores have a blast eating and enjoying each other's company at the St Nicholas Day party in German class.

"Language is the liquid that we're all dissolved in..."

"can we fix it? (Yes, we can!)..."

COMPUTERS/INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Left, Senior John Demkovich takes his time while cutting a piece of wood for his project.
Right, Senior Brock Vale reviews his work carefully before turning it in.

Above, Mrs. Sotello teaches her class how to use Excel.
Below, Senior Victoria Franco concentrates to get her work finished on time.

Above, Mr. Cain's class works on the project that he has assigned.
Left, Junior Daniel Macon takes his time to get the right measurements.

Left, Mr. Romero demonstrates how to use the saw properly.
Below, Junior Bennett Frederick cuts wood as the first step in building his project.

Above, Sophomore Jacob Wright looks over his work thoroughly before moving on to the next question.

Right, Mr. Cain demonstrates how to properly put images on the calendar.

Right, Senior Melanie Stathakis is hard at work making sure her calendar is free from mistakes.

Right, Sophomore Aldo Lopez stays busy in his 4th hour computer class.

Right, Senior Ashley Casillas designs her calendar in Mr. Cain's class.

"I like Auto CAD because I'm into drawing. Mr. Romero is *the man*."
junior
Alex Leddesma

"So far I'm learning a lot in this class. Mrs. Sotello is a great teacher. I love her class."
sophomore
Brittany Bulatovich

"Mr. Romero's class is fun. I'm enjoying it a lot this year."
junior
Justin Jansky

"Mr. Cain's class is a lot of fun. It has taught me to be creative with my work."
senior
Jamie Jordan

MATHEMATICS

"Math is not a hard subject as long as you understand it. Algebra II has been good this year." junior Christine Slivka

"I like that Mrs. Herochik is funny and makes jokes all the time. She makes the class feel at ease." junior Ricardo Munoz

"I doubled up in math this year: geometry and Algebra II. So far they both have been splendid." sophomore Melissa Rodriguez

"Pre-cal is a hard class but Mrs. Herochik is a very good teacher. She explains things very well." junior Emily Matulewicz

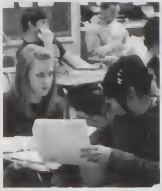
Left, Freshman Algebra I students focus on their difficult lesson.

Left, Juniors talk about their test in pre-calculus at the end of class.

Above, Junior Kaitlyn Muratori concentrates on her Algebra II homework.

Right, Freshman Lupita Cornejo jots down notes in in order to complete her Algebra I assignment.

Above, Mrs. Herochik explicates how to do the problematic homework to junior Courtney Winkleman.



Left, Senior Haydee Lara asks her fellow classmate, junior Katie Bajzatt, about the pre-cal problems they were assigned.

Left, Sophomore Sarah Watkins solves a complicated problem on the chalkboard.

Left, Junior Theresa Miller uses her time wisely by working on her homework during the last minutes of class.

Right, Junior Maira Medina is completely determined to get her in-class work done before the end of the class period.

Left, Sophomore Vanessa Jimenez calculates a challenging Algebra II problem.

Left, Junior Haleigh Suarez smiles at a funny comment Mrs. Herochik made during class.

Right, Junior classmates Olivia Jakovich and Elizabeth Ayon complete the classwork assigned during Algebra II class.

"If you can't do the math then get out of the equation..."

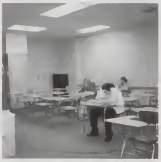
"Gym Class Heroes...

Left, Freshman Fernando Sahagun takes part in the various games that are played in gym.
Right, Students play an exciting and competitive game of football together during gym.

Left, Freshman Bobby Gonzalez buffs up by weight lifting.
Below, Lupe Cornejo exercises in the weight room.

Above, These freshmen, showing off their guns, have a great time getting fit by running laps around the gym.
Below, Sophomores take a test about the effects of alcoholism.

Above, Mr. Segudovic teaches his students about staying alcohol free.
Left, Camilo Campos uses his time to keep in shape.



Right, Sophomores study hard in health class for a test they will be taking on drug abuse.

Above, Freshman Matt Apontc works out his arms by lifting heavy weights during 7th hour gym.

Right, Freshmen Ashley Pokraka and Evelyn Skylas play a game of volleyball.

Right, Freshmen Marysol Garcia and Rachel Grunhard take a break.

Right, Sophomore Rebecca Ramirez copies down notes to study from.

"My favorite topic in health was alcoholism. It taught me not to drink and to always just say no."
sophomore Karan Darji

"Gym is fun. We have different groups who do different things. We all really enjoy the class!"
freshman
Megan Jakovich

"I enjoy gym because it helps me to stay in shape and we all have a good time."
freshman
Stephen Bajzatt

Reflector

Tattler is my absolute favorite class. I love sharing my articles with the school. I'm going to miss everyone next year!" senior
Sam Thompson

"I love my Reflector class. I also love being a part of The Reflector and sharing my ideas about how we can make an awesome yearbook." junior Katie Bajzatt

"Reflector has been one of my favorite classes this year. I like that we get to plan out our yearbook and take lots of pictures." senior
Lupe delaPaz

"I really enjoy being part of The Tattler staff. It's a great experience for me because I want to pursue journalism in college. I also do it to be close to Ms. Hylek." junior Araceli Gomez

Left, Reflector staff members work on their layouts as Herff Jones Rep Lisa Keene, far right, solves a problem with a graphic.

Right, Senior Samantha Thompson pays close attention to what Ms. Hylek has to say about the upcoming issue of The Tattler.

Right, Juniors Katie Bajzatt, Kelsee Boland and senior Melissa Castellano help each other with ideas to perfect their final templates for this year's Reflector.

Above, Juniors Sandra Silva, Emily Matulewicz and senior Noah Watkins review the necessary corrections needed to make their layouts just right. Right, Junior girls Emily Gazda, Christabel Gutierrez, Haleigh Suarez and Araceli Gomez start working on their newly-assigned articles.

Left, Araceli Gomez looks through the archives to find an old Tattler to see if they had already covered the history of St. Patrick's Day a few years back for the March edition of Tattler.

Left, Juniors Haleigh Suarez and Araceli Gomez talk to Ms. Hylek about what topics they want to cover for the upcoming issue of the paper.

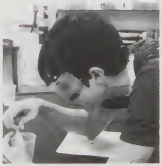
Left, At one of the Reflector meetings, some of the staff goes over their revisions for their layouts.
Right, Before Ms. Hylek left on sick leave, her 6th hour Reflector class presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

"Thanks for the memories..."

"Blinding me with science..."

Left, Junior Jessica Flores prepares a solution during her AP Biology class.
Right, Closely observing a reaction, junior Michael Unate obtains an amount of solution from the cup.

Above, Junior Anna Cervantes and sophomore Karan Darji extract test tubes from a rack during chemistry class.
Below, Senior Luis Ayala displays the the proper lab etiquette.



Above, Juniors Adi Cruz, Kelsee Boland and Haleigh Suarez weigh the contents of a container.
Left, Sophomore Meghan Thompson records her results.

Right, Mr. Nichols assists senior Tim Wajvoda with his mineral classification.

Left, Junior Veronica Gomez carefully adds liquid to her mixture.
Below, Using a syringe, junior Chuck Meyers removes the liquid from the container.

Above, Reading the directions, junior Edward Calderon gets ready to start his work.

Right, Junior Emily Duha concentrates on the task at hand during a lab.

Right, Junior Victor Garcia uses caution before using the Bunsen burner.

Right, Freshman Melina Marin carefully keeps track of her findings.

"I like Biology II because we get to do experiments and work together." junior Jessica Flores

"Chemistry was hard, but I learned a lot and the labs were fun." senior Nathan Sabol

"Biology is fun. Yay!" junior Anthony Rodriguez

"I like Earth/Space because we get to do lots of projects." senior Lupe delaPaz

SOCIAL STUDIES

"Mr Milenkoff is a great teacher He made me really interested in World Geography"
freshman
Beth Murryn

"Mr Adkins taught me how psychology applies to our everyday lives"
junior
Erin Lawson

"Mr Milenkoff's class is a great experience I learned the material easier by doing the projects"
junior Taylor Pokraka

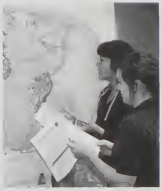
"Economics is a fun class that has taught me about real life situations."
senior
Michael Rokicki

Left, Seniors Grecia Gomez and Samantha Thompson listen to Mr. Wilkening's advice on buying a car.

Above, Trying a new dish from Israel during his class project is freshman Rudy Perez.

Right, Mr. Milenkoff helps freshman Fernando Sahagun prepare his country's food to serve to the class. Each group was required to write a report, have a visual aid and make a dish that comes from their given country.

Below, Jonathan Hayes and Mr. Adkins work to figure out an answer to a question on the study guide.



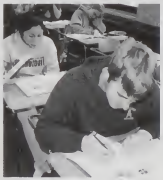
Above, Presenting their project in World Geography are freshmen Steve Kieltyka and Jordan Hennessey.

Left, Seniors Erica Arroyo and Natalie Prskalo use the classroom map to answer questions on their worksheets.

Left, Freshman Lupe Cornejo licks her plate clean after finishing the food that was made in geography class.

Right, Junior Sarah Perez uses her time wisely to keep up with her work in sociology class.

Left, Listening to his classmates' presentation on Saudi Arabia, freshman Bobby Gonzalez absorbs new information on the country.

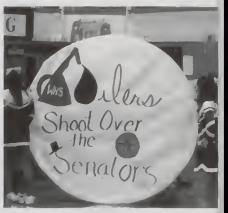


Left, Mr. Adkins' sociology class works diligently on their assignment.

Right, Mr. Wilkening shares a story with his economics class while explaining the importance of a good credit score.

"Every path you take you're leaving your legacy..."

NOW PLAYING...



SPORTS

"Running to the Future..."

CROSS COUNTRY

The 2007 cross country team achieved many goals this year. One of their major accomplishments was during regionals where the girls team was only two points away from reaching semistate. Another major achievement for the cross country team was that sophomore Ilse Jimenez was selected to First Team All-Conference, while Araceli Gomez, Christabel Gutierrez and Adrianna Cruz were selected Second Team. Overall it was a rewarding year for both runners and the coach. "We had a very successful season. I look forward to next year; we have everybody returning!" said coach Moynihan. With such talent and experience, the team hopes to go even further next season.

Above, The 2007 Cross Country Team. Standing: Junior Adrianna Cruz, Coach Kevin Moynihan, junior Alejandro Leddesma, freshman Stephen Bajzatt, Assistant Coach Nick Herringa and junior Maegan Stribiak. Kneeling: Junior Araceli Gomez, junior Christabel Gutierrez, sophomore Vanessa Jimenez and freshman Megan Jakovich.

Above, Christabel Gutierrez outruns her opponent, making sure not to lose her place. Below, Junior Araceli Gomez proves why she was selected Second Team All-Conference this year.

Below, Racing in the harsh conditions, Adi Cruz continues running fiercely with much drive to win.

Above, Coach Moynihan and assistant coach Nick Heeringa are training Whiting's runners, as they time them during practice.

Left, Maegan Stribiak is running steadily and is determined to finish. Below, Junior Christabel Gutierrez is staying in the lead during her race.

Above, Stephen Bajzatt is paying no attention to his surroundings and continues on in his course without a problem. Left, Alejandro Leddesma and Stephen Bajzatt make sure they warm up before one of their runs.

"This season was great; we had a lot of returning runners. As a team we all improved as the season went on. We are determined to make semistate next season because this year we missed it by two points." junior Araceli Gomez

"This cross country season was very exhausting, but, at the same time, fun. My main concern this season was to help Steven Bajzatt get ready for high school cross country. He's going to be one of Whiting's best runners." junior Alejandro Leddesma

"With it being my first season of running, I was nervous about the competition level. But as the season went on, I had more confidence in myself and my team. Every expectation was fulfilled and I had a great time while doing it." junior Adrianna Cruz

"As far as distance went, I loved racing for three miles, as crazy as that sounds. I had a great summer running with close friends and coming up with dorky things to keep us occupied."
junior Christabel Gutierrez

"Cross country was very exciting for me this year, especially because I made First Team All-Conference. Also, I got my best time at regionals. It was more challenging this year since the distance was longer, but I'm hoping to do better next year."
sophomore Ilse Jimenez

"This past year's cross country season was filled with a lot of fun and even more hard work. Our summer training strategy changed up a lot, and we were running almost equal distances for warm-up, run and cool-down. Overall it was a fun and rewarding season."
junior Maegan Stribiak

Left, Adi Cruz gives it all she's got to defeat her opponent. Cruz not only ran cross country, but also played on the volleyball team as well. Right, Some of Whiting finest runners get off to a good start.

Above, Whiting's runners have a lot of obstacles to go through, but are ready to meet the challenge. Below, Freshman Megan Jakovich runs at a steady pace and remains focused.

Right, Ilse Jimenez, who experienced much success this season, keeps in charge of this race. "My teammates really helped inspire me to do my best," Jimenez said..

Above, A new member of the team, Stephen Bajzatt performed very well during his first season. Below, Alejandro Leddesma has his full attention on the race.

Above, Concentrating on her run and winning the race is First Team All-Conference runner Ilse Jimenez.

Above, Alejandro Leddesma keeps a good lead on his opponents, while making it look easy. Right, Runners Araceli Gomez, Maegan Stribiak, Adrianna Cruz, Christabel Gutierrez and Mr. Cruz take a break at one of the meets.

Left, Adi Cruz is running with much effort. She is one just example of the talent WHS has on its team. Right, Keeping up in the race, Stephen Bajzatt displays his endurance.

Above, Making sure to keep his pace, Stephen Bajzatt and his opponent run head-to-head.

Below, Sophomore Ilse Jimenez runs swiftly with much determination.

Above, An integral member of the successful 2007 cross country team, Christabel Gutierrez runs a good race.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Andrean Inv. 8/16
Gavit Inv. 6/18
GSSC Conf. Meet Incomplete
TF South Inv. Incomplete
GSSC Conf. Meet Incomplete
New Prairie Invite 13/31
Quad Meet Second Place
Highland Invite 7/18
Dual Meet Win River Forest, North Newton Cancelled
Conference Inv. 3/7
Sectionals 4/10
Regionals 6/10

"And we'll keep on fighting till the end..."

VARSITY FOOTBALL

The Oilers started off the season in August with hot days and hard practices, and the players' intense work showed when it became game time. Numerous players contributed to the team's success this season. Quarterback Jeremy Dumezich received GSSC First Team All-Conference. Wide receiver Brock Vale also added his talent to the team, receiving many awards, some of which include GSSC First Team All-Conference and IFCA First Region All State. Coach Cain was very proud of his team and felt the season was very successful as a whole. "I am most proud of the way our team finished the season. I am confident that those who endured the season will be better adults because of it. I am proud of how the players and coaches came together the first week of sectionals and rallied together to play as a team. The 2007 season will not be remembered for the win/loss record, but will be measured down the road with the character it built in the 29 players who finished the season," coach Cain said.

Above, The 2007 Varsity Football Team. Coaches: Head Coach Jeff Cain. Assistants Rob Segudovic, Willie Greer, Brett Jennings, Shawn Turpin, Daniel Tolcikis. Captains: Seniors Jeremy Dumezich, Adam Flores, Joseph Franko and Brock Vale. Managers Natalie Mendez, Rachel Sherer, Christine Cervantes and Maritza Flores.

Above, Junior Daniel Macon gets set to play some hard defense against his Calumet opponent. Below, Coach Cain motivates his team with a few words of inspiration.

Below, Senior Jon Lovasko waits to snap the ball back to quarterback Will Dumezich.

Above, Senior Will Dumezich gets ready to throw a touchdown pass to his teammate. Left, Proving why he's such a valuable asset to the team, senior Joe Franko holds back the opposition.

Above, The multi-talented Brock Vale shows no fear as he hangs on to the ball as his opponent tries to strip it away.

Above, Senior Nathan Sabol holds the ball for junior Richie Munoz as he kicks a field goal to add points to the scoreboard.

"My favorite memory was the first week of sectionals when we all came together and became a family to dominate South Central." senior Jonathon Lovasko

"I felt the season turned out very well. I'm very happy for my team. I just really wished that we could have won a sectional title my senior year." senior Nathan Sabol

"Football this year had a lot of ups and downs, but overall I am glad that I finally came out and played. I wish I would have played in the past." senior Billy Pustek

"The season was the best time of my life. The team did great. I had a great time and I will never forget the Oiler team."
senior Joe Franko

"I think the team far exceeded what people thought was going to happen. It was a great season and I'm proud of the team."
senior Brock Vale

"My favorite football memory was when we came together as team and made it to the sectional championship against West Central."
senior Adam Flores

Above, Junior Juan Torres maneuvers around his defenders as he heads towards the end zone.

Below, Senior Brock Vale trots off the field after scoring one of his numerous touchdowns this season.

Below, The team gets pumped up for a win as they burst onto the field in the homecoming game against the Calumet Warriors.

Left, The Oiler defense stops their opponent dead in his tracks before any damage can be done.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

RiverForest	F
Gavit	W
Wheeler	L
South Central	W
Bishop Noll	F
North Newton	F
Calumet	W
Clark	L
Lake Station	W

Sectionals

South Central	W
Triton	L

Final Record
5-6

Above, The Oiler team captains anxiously walk to the middle of the field for the coin toss.

Left, Junior Richie Munoz and his teammates prevent the other team from gaining their first down. Below, The defensive line huddles together and talk about their plan before getting into their places.

Below, Senior Matthew Augustyn takes a break from the game to tend to a hand injury on the side line.

Above, Junior Eduardo Galaviz and senior Matthew Augustyn get set into position.

Above, Working together as a team, senior Adam Flores and junior Chuck Meyers take down their opponent before he gains any yardage.

Above, The offensive line gets set into position while waiting for the quarterback to yell "Hike."

"This is the story of a champion..."

Under the guidance of new coach, Kelly Greer, the volleyball team began working hard at practices over the summer to set their goals for the season. The team had an outstanding season with a record of 26-10. They came in 2nd at the West Central Tourney, 3rd at the Griffith Tourney and accomplished one of their biggest goals by winning the first Sectional Championship in WHS history. The team moved to regionals at Caston H.S., but fell short to M.C. Marquette. "The season went surprisingly well. The girls were full of confidence and they definitely played like it. It was a great season and hopefully one they will all remember. It was also an amazing way to start my coaching career," said coach Greer.

Above, The 2007 Varsity Volleyball Team. Top Row: Mel Dumezich, Emily Gazda, Sarah Watkins, Chelsae Strabavy, Amanda Blackwell, Coach Kelly Greer. Middle Row: Araceli Gomez, Haleigh Suarez, Katie Bajzatt, Adi Cruz, Sarah Jansky. Bottom Row: Samantha Plavec, Ashley Kieltyka, Victoria Franco.

Above, Sophomore Chelsae Strabavy extends her arms up and over the net to block her opponent's ball.

Below, Junior Katie Bajzatt makes a diving play for the ball.

Below, The team takes a moment to discuss strategies and pump each other up before they start the first game of the match against Morgan Township.

Above, New coach Kelly Greer calls a timeout during the Hebron game to regroup and motivate her team. The team went on to beat Hebron that night.

Above, Senior Samantha Plavec waits for the referee's whistle to serve the ball.

Below, Sophomore Sarah Watkins hits the ball past Hebron's double block.

"Winning sectionals was something I will never forget. It was exciting to be a part of history. I was also really happy for our seniors."
freshman Amanda Blackwell

"Winning sectionals was a great experience. The Washington Township game was my favorite. It felt so good to beat them. It was a great experience."
sophomore Sarah Watkins

"This season was a great success. We had an awesome record, but, most importantly, we played together as a team and won sectionals."
junior Haleigh Suarez

"Winning sectionals was such an awesome way to end my career and being the first in school history was even better!"
senior Samantha Plavec

"This volleyball season went really well and I was very excited that we won sectionals. It was a great way to end my senior volleyball season."
senior Victoria Franco

"This volleyball season was one I will never forget. Winning sectionals was amazing. I was also really happy we came together and played as a team."
senior Ashley Kieltyka

Above, Junior Adi Cruz tosses the ball high above her head in order to serve an ace.

Below, Ashley Kieltyka goes up to tip the ball past her opponent to gain back momentum for her team.

Above, Samantha Plavec sets the ball to her teammate.

Below, Victoria Franco demonstrates the proper technique for passing the ball. Franco played back row and was the designated libero for the season.

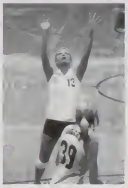
Above, The varsity team holds hands as the National Anthem is played before the game.

Left, Senior Ashley Kieltyka and junior Mel Dumezich go up for a double block and succeed.

Below, Senior Victoria Franco was escorted by her parents on Senior Night.

Above, The varsity team celebrates a point during the Morgan Township game.

Left, Mel Dumezich jumps high above her opponent's block to put the ball down for a kill.



Above, Junior Emily Gazda takes control after the setter took the first hit and sets up teammate Ashley Kieltyka.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Wash. Twp.	L
EC Central	W
Wheeler	L
LaCrosse	W
M.C. Marquette	L
West Central Tourney	
West Central	L
Rensselaer	W
North Newton	W
Laf. Cent. Cath.	L
Morgan Twp.	W
Hanover Central	L
Bishop Noll	W
Hobart	L
Gary Roosevelt	W
North Newton	W
Griffith Tourney	
Griffith	L
Gavit	W
Calumet	W
Hanover Central	W
Knuts	W
Clark	W
Morton	L
Calumet	W
Gary West Side	W
River Forest	W
Hammond High	W
Hebron	W
Clark	W
Lake Station	W
South Central	W
Westville	W
Gavit	W
Sectionals	
Morgan Twp.	W
Wash. Twp.	W
Knuts	W
Regionals	
M.C. Marquette	L
Final Record: 26-10	

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

"I believe I can fly, I believe I can touch the sky..."

This year was a big change of pace for the Whiting Oiler basketball team. Under the new coaching staff of first-year head coach Derrick Milenkoff, there were a lot of changes made. Despite the efforts of the team and their new coaches, the Oilers experienced a winless season. "If you look at the season in regards to wins and losses, it obviously wasn't what we wanted, but the growth that we made as a team was outstanding. Many valuable lessons were learned and the foundation has been laid. It is still time to believe!" stated coach Milenkoff. With many returning varisty players, the boys hope to improve their record and prove that Whiting basketball has changed for the better.

Above, The 2007-2008 Boys Varsity Basketball Team. Front Row: Steven Kieltyka, Nathan Sabol, Elliot Bajda and Mike Rokicki. Seeond Row: Charles Meyers, Chris Moynihan, Daniel Macon, Tim Wajvoda and Taylor Pokraka.

Above, Chuck Meyers, junior, tries to get around the defense to pass the ball.

Below, Senior Nathan Sabol looks to see which of his fellow players is open so he can pass off the ball.

Below, Nathan Sabol, making a defensive play, blocks his oponent disabling his rival team from scoring.

Above, After the completion of the Senior Night game, the team and coaches take a moment for a picture together.

Above, Huddled together as a team, the boys talk out their next move against their rivals at the River Forest game.

Above, After rebounding the ball, freshman Elliot Bajda dribbles past half court and tries to pass the ball to a fellow teammate. Left, Senior Tim Wajvoda jumps high into the air against the opponent from Morgan Township for the tip-off at the start of the game.

"This year was a great learning experienece for the team. Although we didn't win any ganes, I still had a great time playing in them."
freshman
Elliot Bajda

"This year was a great experienee. I had a lot of fun playing even though we didn't win any games."
freshman
Steven Kieltyka

"I had a great time playing this year. I also enjoyed playing for Coach Milenkoff. Hopefully, next year's season will be even better."
junior
Taylor Prokraka

"This season was a new adventure. We didn't do well, but our team came together and learned a lot. Milenkoff was great to have as a coach."
senior
Tim Wajvoda

"This year basketball was a good time. We worked hard every day and had a good time doing it. I am going to miss Whiting basketball."
senior
Mike Rokicki

"Basketball was a lot of fun this year and I am going to miss having a great coach like Coach Milenkoff."
senior
Nathan Sabol

Left, Junior Daniel Macon shoots a free throw during the sectionals game at Morgan Township, where he scored a total of 14 points, two of which were three-pointers.

Above, Keeping a positive attitude, the Oilers are ready to take on their opponent in the first round of sectionals.

Below, Avoiding the steal, junior Chuck Meyers cuts around his competition to make the basket.

Right, Junior Chuck Meyeres lays one into the basket for another two points. Below, Junior Christopher Moynihan takes a shot at scoring during the Whiting vs. Wheeler game.

Right, Freshman Steven Kieltyka, seniors Michael Rokicki and Steven Coleman run a few laps around the court as a warm-up before starting the varsity game.

Below, Starting with senior Tim Wajvoda, the varsity team begins all home games by bursting through the cheerleaders' spirit sign.

Whiting Oilers Vs...	
Washington Twp.	L
Clark	L
Griffith	L
Marquette	L
Calumet	L
Westville	L
River Forest	L
North Newton	L
LaCrosse	L
Lake Station	L
Wheeler	L
GSSC Trny.	L
Calumet	L
River Forest	L
Bishop Noll	L
Gavit	L
Hanover	L
Grant Park	L
Morton	L
Hebron	L
Clark	L
Sectionals	
Morgan Twp.	L

Above, After calling a timeout, Coach Milenkoff goes over the team's next strategy at a key moment during the sectional game.

Above, Hoping for two more points, the Oilers anxiously wait to see if their attempt at a basket was successful.

'Risin' up, straight to the top..."

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Hard work, commitment and dedication made up the groundwork on which the Lady Oilers had to build this season. With first year coach Kevin Moynihan and assistants Matt Moynihan and Tim Kompier, they began their season working out and practicing hard. In the beginning of the season, the Lady Oilers were picked dead last, but they proved themselves by beating some tough competition. They finished the season with a record of 10-11 and took a 5-2 finish in the GSSC. "They showed a lot of character and believed in themselves and each other when others did not. My first year of coaching at the varsity level was a great experience," said coach Kevin Moynihan.

The 2007-2008 Lady Oiler Basketball Team. Top Row: Assistant Coach Tim Kompier, Ashley Pokraka, Chelsae Strabavy, Assistant Coach Matt Moynihan, Ashley Kieltyka, Sarah Watkins and Head Coach Kevin Moynihan. Bottom Row: Araceli Gomez, Adi Cruz, Emily Gazda, Amanda Blackwell, Victoria Franco, Caitlin Wrzalinski and Jennifer Hennessy

Above, The team goes in for a rebound after a free-throw attempt.

Below, Freshman Ashley Pokraka lays the ball up for an easy two-point basket.

Below, Senior Victoria Franco shoots the ball from the corner.

Above, The Lady Oilers pump each other up before an important game at home.

Left, Junior Emily Gazda looks up the court as she is inbounding the basketball.

Right, Natalie Mendez and Adi Cruz get fired up before their home game.

Above, Senior Natalie Mendez brings the ball up the court to set up the Oilers' offense.

Right, Senior Ashley Kieltyka dribbles around her defender.

"Basketball season this year was a great experience for me. It was awesome being able to play on the varisty level and improve my game."
freshman Amanda Blackwell

"Our season went pretty well this year. With our record of 10-11, I think if we keep working at it, we can make improve our record next year."
junior Adi Cruz

"Basketball was great this year! Having the opportunity of being coached by Mr. Moynihan was a great learning experience. We also really came together as a team."
junior Emily Gazda

"Basketball season went very well this year I was extremely happy with my coaches and teammates. We really came together as a team and it certainly showed at the end of the season."
senior Ashley Kieltyka

"This year basketball was a lot harder on us, physically and mentally. We had a good season and it was well worth the work."
senior Natalie Mendez

"Basketball went very well this year. We had a good season and amazing coaches. We learned a lot and grew as a team. We also played our hearts out at sectionals."
senior Victoria Franco

Left, Sarah Watkins, Victoria Franco and Adi Cruz wait for the rest of the starting lineup to be announced.

Left, The Lady Oilers stand together before one of their home games this season.

Above, Freshman Amanda Blackwell looks for an open player before time is up near the end of the game.

Above, After the shot has been taken, Emily Gazda jumps high for the rebound against numerous Bishop Noll players.

Right, Sophomore Sarah Watkins jumps high for the tip-off as some of her teammates go in for the ball.

Above, Junior Adi Cruz drives toward the basket as teammate Ashley Kieltyka sets a screen on Cruz's defender.

Above, Ashley Kieltyka tries to sink two free throws as a technical foul is called on her opponent from Kouts during sectionals.

Right, Emily Gazda quickly drives past multiple defenders as she lays the ball in the basket, putting up points for the Lady Oilers.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Kouts	L
Clark	W/F
Gavit	L
Westville	L
MC Marquette	W
Wash. Twp.	L
Calumet	L
Griffith	L
River Forest	W
LaCrosse	W
North Newton	L
Lake Station	W
Wheeler	W
Hebron	W
Bishop Noll	W
GSSC Tourney	
MC Marquette	W
Calumet	L
Clark	W
Morton	L
South Central	L
Sectionals	
Kouts	L
Final Record	**10-11**

Left, First year coach, Kevin Moynihan, discusses strategies during a timeout.

Right, Victoria Franco makes a tough pass to her teammate while under pressure.

Above, Sarah Watkins, Emily Gazda and Amanda Blackwell play defense with their hands up during the South Central game.

Below, Seniors Natalie Mendez, Ashley Kieltyka and Victoria Franco are presented with gifts from the underclassmen on Senior Night.

Above, Adi Cruz shoots a pair of free throws at a critical moment in the game against Kouts during sectionals.

"She's an All-American Girl..."

With a new coach and an all freshman JV squad, the Whiting High School cheerleaders seemed to have their work cut out for them this year. Coach Olivia Rhodehamel was impressed with the turnout and talent present at tryouts held in June. After the squads were carefully selected, the group consisted of thirteen eager cheerleaders. In early August, a private camp was held where an NCA instructor came to Whiting and taught new techniques and cheers. Seniors Michelle Mirza, Claudia Torres and freshman Melina Marin were also given the opportunity to perform in this year's halftime show at the Rose Bowl in Miami, Florida. Once the year progressed and hours of practice were put in, the varsity squad was eventually able to use their creativity and put together some advanced stunting, including a crowd pleasing basket toss. The junior varsity squad was mentored by varsity in their stunting and exceeded many expectations. Despite some injuries and a few tears, the girls pulled together and ended the season with a lot of spirit. The cheerleaders of the '07-'08 season definitely proved that they, without a doubt, define "Oiler Pride."

Above, The Whiting High School Varsity Cheerleading Squad. Top Row: Claudia Torres, Diana Lupo, Emilee Kalocinski, Michelle Mirza and Rebecca Maslikowski. Bottom Row: Amy Mahony, Heather Stupeck and Sandra Silva. Coach Olivia Rhodehamel not pictured.

Above, Junior Sandra Silva happily performs the school song at the end of another Oiler win. Below, Freshman Ashley Johnson smiles and "spirits" after a touchdown.

Below, Some of the girls from the junior varsity squad put freshman Brittney Lupo in a half.

Above, The cheerleaders anxiously wait for their Oiler fooball team to break through the sign at the home game against South Central.

Left, The varsity squad performs a "full" at the Bishop Noll basketball game. Below, Both squads cheer on their Whiting Oilers on to another victory.

Above, Sandra Silva balances Amy Mahony on her shoulders as they, along with Brittney Lupo, watch the action on the football field. Left, At the end of the home game against North Newton, the cheerleaders and fans yell together, "Oilers are the best!"

"This year of cheerleading was fun. There was a lot more that I was hoping to do, but I'm glad about what we accomplished. I will definitely miss it." senior Claudia Torres

"I am really sad that it's over. I had a wonderful time cheering for the last four years. I've made some awesome friends and have had tons of memories." senior Michelle Mirza

"Cheering has been an amazing experience. I've had so much fun cheering and getting fans excited to be at games. It's been an awesome time that I'll never forget" senior Diana Lupo

"I'm really sad that this was my last year cheering. I'm going to miss the girls so much. We had a lot of great times that I'll never forget." senior Emilee Kalocinski

"Cheerleading this year has been a lot of fun. It's really exciting to cheer in front of a big crowd. It's totally different from middle school." freshman Brittney Lupo.

"Cheering has been a great experience. I'll never forget all of the memories or the awesome girls I've met. I'm really going to miss it all." senior Rebecca Maslikowski

Left, Some of the cheerleaders cross their fingers while waiting for the extra point. Right, The girls come together during halftime of one of many very cold football games.

Above, The cheerleaders excitedly wait for the boys to come out on the field for the long-awaited Homecoming game.

Above, The junior varsity squad cheers at one of the first games of the school year. Below, The cheerleaders help lead the crowd's chants during Senior Night.

Right, During a break in the action against North Newton, the five senior cheerleaders smile as they group together to share one of their last moments as part of the Whiting High School squad.

Above, The senior girls greet the opposing team's cheerleading squad with smiles during halftime of the South Central football game.

Above, The whiting High School Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad. Brittney Lupo, Erica Moen, Taylor McNinch and Melina Marin. Not Pictured: Coach Olivia Rhodehamel.

Above, The seniors take their last picture together as a group at the close of basketball sectionals.

Above: The girls welcome the Pioneer cheerleading squad to the Battle of 119th Street game against rival Clark High School.

Above, In between third and fourth quarters, both of the squads yell together, "WHS Oilers, all right!" at their last basket ball game of the 2007-2008 school year.

Above, Freshmen Erica Moen and Taylor McNinch show their school spirit during the Senior Night game.

Above, The freshman cheerleaders smile as they huddle together at their first junior varsity football game of the school year.

Below, The girls start the cheer, "We, we want a touchdown, Oilers!" at the Bishop Noll football game.

Below, At an away game, the cheerleaders show off their creativity and "Do the Heisman on That Noll" with the crowd at the football game against the Warriors.

"Never back down..."

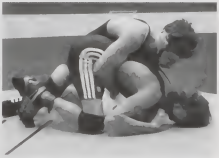
VARSITY WRESTLING

Although not the ideal season one would hope for, the varsity wrestling team continued to soldier on, match after match. With the loss of valuable seniors and an inflation of new faces, the team managed to produce a record of 1 and 20. "The entire season was a learning experience," said coach Segudovic. "We struggled at times but showed improvement towards the end. The seniors did a great job of helping the younger members out and I wish them the best of luck." The season wasn't a complete loss for everyone, though. Senior Matt Augustyn became a regional qualifier and freshman Peter Blood was both a regional qualifier and sectionals runner up. With the upcoming season, the team will lose three seniors, but keep a handful of members who are now accustomed to wrestling at the high school level.

Above, The 2007-2008 Varsity Wrestling Team. Bottom Row: Fernando Sahagun, Matt Aponte, Emerik Quiroz, Adam Flores. Top Row: Assistant Coach Aaron Morando, Jon Lovasko, Ryan Augustyn, Matt Augustyn, Jordan Hennessey and Head Coach Rob Segudovic.

Above, Seniors Matt Augustyn and Jon Lovasko meet with the referee and two of their opponents before the start of a match. Below, Freshman Matt Aponte takes direction from Coach Flores.

Below, Freshmen Emrik Quiroz and Matt Aponte practice a few moves before their match.



Above, Freshman standout Peter Blood intimidates his opponent at the E.C. Central Sectional.

Above, Senior Jon Lovasko attempts to pin his Gary West Side opponent in record time.

Above, Senior Matt Augustyn carefully prepares to make a move. Left, Freshman Emerik Quiroz shakes his opponent's hand, showcasing good sportsmanship.

"This season was a good one for me. It was tough, but, in the end, a lot of fun."
senior Matt Augustyn

"Although I didn't get to wrestle the whole year due to injury, I had a great time being on the mats."
senior Adam Flores.

"This wrestling season was mainly about learning since we had a lot of young wrestlers, but, with hard work, I think we'll do very well in the future."
freshman Matt Aponte

"Although we may not have had the greatest season, I learned a lot and had fun with my friends."
senior Jon Lovasko

"This year was a great and fun season. I may not have won a match, but it was still pretty awesome."
sophomore Ryan Augustyn

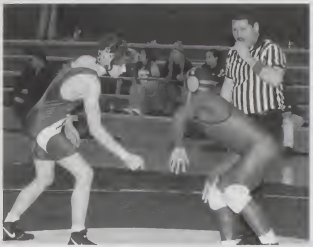
"This season was a great experience for me as a freshman because I had to wrestle juniors and seniors. I'm looking forward to next year."
freshman Emerik Quiroz

Above, Senior Jon Lovasko takes his required stance at the start of a sectionals match up at East Chicago Central.

Above, Senior Matt Augustyn is offered a congratulatory handshakc after a job well done.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Andrean	L
Morth Newton	L
Lake Station	L
E.C. Central	L
Morton	L
Hammond	L
River Forest	L
Morth Newton	L
Boone Grove	L
Gavit	L
Hobart	L
BNI	W
Goshen	L
Highland	L
E.C. Central	L
BNI	L
West Side	L
Lake County	18th
Lake Station	L
Morth Newton	L
Calumet	L
BNI	L
Team GSSC	6th
GSSC Individual	5th
Sectionals	8th
Final Record	1-20

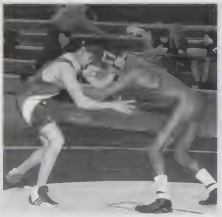


Above, The referce looks on as sophomore Ryan Augustyn takes a second to contemplate his next move against his opponent.

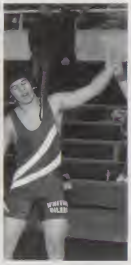
Above, In a close contest, coach Rob Segudovic shouts dircctions to his wrestler.

Above, The wrestling team tenatively watchcs a match from the side lines.

Bclow, Ryan Augustyn and Jon Lovasko share a laugh before the match bcgins.



Above, Matt Aponte demonstrates his skill on the mat while gaining experience for next season.



Above, Emerik Quiroz is declared the winner.

"They got power, they got speed..."

VARSITY BASEBALL

"The baseball team exceeded all expectations this year with an unprecedented run through the IHSAA 1A state tournament. We won the school's first sectional and regional championships, and made it to the 'Final Four.' We were led this year by our seniors, who, through their clutch hitting and pitching, inspired the entire team with their heart and determination. This season was made possible by plenty of hard work and record-setting performances by all of our players. We had some ups and downs during the season, but we saved our best performances for the end of the season. Jeremy Dumezich's run at the state doubles record, Brock Vale's win over arch-rival Clark, Mike Rokicki's no-hitter and pitching wins in the regional and semi-state and Tim Wajvoda's walk-off home run in the bottom of the seventh to win the first game at semistate are just a few of the highlights of the season. We will be able to look back at this season for many years and be proud of what we accomplished as a team. We have, hopefully, proved to ourselves what we are capable of, and what is possible for the baseball teams at Whiting. Starting a new tradition of winning, we'll be anxious to do it again in the years to come."
Coach Kevin Lenz

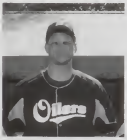
Above, The 2008 Varsity Baseball Team. First Row: Standing: Coach Robert Segudovic, Jeremy Dumezich, Charles Meyers, Coach Kevin Lenz, Daniel Macon, Timothy Wajvoda, Manager Heather Stupeck. Second Row: Nathan Sabol, Jonathon Lovasko, Andrew Lowe, Taylor Pokraka, Michael Rokicki. Third Row: Thomas Flores, Rudy Perez, Elliot Bajda, Matthew Aponte, Brock Vale and Joseph Murzyn.

Below, "Safe!" Senior Brock Vale beats out the throw back to first base.

Left, Senior Michael Rokicki pitches a third strike to the batter to end the inning. Below, Senior Nathan Sabol stops a ground ball from going into the outfield.

Above, Junior Taylor Pokraka hits a line drive past the pitcher into the outfield. Left, Sophmore Joe Murzyn returns a ball to the pitcher after catching a strike.

Below, Sophomore Andrew Lowe throws the ball to Nathan Sabol at second.



Left, After leading the team to history-making sectional and regional championships, Coach Kevin Lenz was honored as the Times Coach of the Year.

"Winning regionals has been the best experience in high school. It is the perfect way to end my senior year."
senior Nathan Sabol

"This season was awesome! We really came together as a team and made history. I'm going to miss the seniors a lot."
junior Daniel Macon

"Winning was amazing. I seriously have never been that excited for anything before. It felt like I was walking on a cloud."
senior Brock Vale

"Sectionals and regionals were two of my best sports accomplishments. After losing four championships, it was great to finally win one."
senior Jon Lovasko

"I had a blast this season. We won many games. All season long we never gave up on each other and that has brought us to a regional championship."
freshman Elliot Bajda

"This season was exhilarating. We made history which made the season so much better. I will greatly miss the seniors but it was fun while it lasted."
sophomore Joe Murzyn

Left, From the dugout the team cheers on their teammate as he is up to bat. Right, Senior Tim Wajvoda is ready waiting for the the pitch to be thrown so he can steal second base.

Above, Pitcher Chuck Meyers, junior, fires a strike against his Hanover Central opponent.

Below, Brock Vales delivers a big hit. Right, The team is ecstatic after beating Clark for the first time in 15 years, also making this Coach Lenz's 100th win.

Above, Freshman Elliot Bajda sneaks off second base making his way for third. Below, The proud coaches stop to take a picture while they hold the sectional championship trophy.

Above, Senior slugger Will Dumezich follows through after making contact with the ball.

Right, Senior Will Dumezich stands proud holding second base. He is now third in the state for doubles.

Above, The 1A Sectional Champion Oilers celebrate after their first-ever sectional win.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Griffith	L
Westville	W W
Bishop Noll	W L
Morton	L
LaCrosse	W
Hanover Central	L
Clark	L W
Bishop Noll	W L
Gavit	W
Morgan Twp.	W
MC Marquette	L L
River Forest	W W
Calumet	W W
North Newton	L
Wheeler	L W
Lake Station	W W
Washington Twp.	W
Hebron	L
Highland	W
Sectionals	W
Regionals	W
Semi State	W L
Record	20-12

Above, After winning a sectional title for the first time in WHS history, the baseball team holds the trophy high with pride.

Below, Senior Jon Lovasko stretches to make an incredible out at first base.

Above, Pitcher Michael Rokicki helps cover home plate to prevent the runner from scoring.

VARSITY/JV GOLF

"Try your best to win them all and one day time will tell..."

This year's golf season started with the team practicing chipping and putting in the wrestling room. With four returning players, the team worked on improving on the basics and worked with the new team members to help them learn the rules of golf. Each player had his ups and downs through the season, but worked hard at practice to improve. With each match, the team saw how accurate putting and strong drives improve their scores and help lower the team's score. "Even though our primary goal of breaking .500 was not met this year, our team did come together by the end of the season as a cohesive unit. The guys did work hard at golf to the best of their abilities," said coach Herochik. "Bob Anderson, our captain, worked hard and kept up the morale of the team through his leadership and team talks. Farewell to our loan senior, Santiago Nieto, who worked hard to become our No. 2 golfer," she continued. The team beat last year's record, and, with only one player graduating, the team has a promising future ahead.

Above, The 2008 Golf Team. Kneeling: Danny Atteberry, manager Emily Matulewicz, Santiago Nieto, Tommy Kompier. Standing: Matt Keown, Jon Lanman, Bob Anderson, Jake Wright, Coach Herochik.

Above, Mrs. Herochik gives sophomore Jake Wright and junior Bob Anderson advice before they tee off at the next hole.

Left, Santiago Nieto prepares to tee off in the match against Bishop Noll.

Right, Bob Anderson concentrates on hitting the ball onto the fairway. At the beginning of the season, the team voted Anderson as captain.

Below, Freshman Tommy Kompier places the ball on the tee before starting the match.

Left, Senior Santiago Nieto follows through on his shot.

Right, Tommy Kompier makes an easy putt to achieve par.

Left, Jake Wright watches his ball land in the fairway after he teed off.

Below, Bob Anderson talks to his Clark opponent before the match begins.

"I did pretty well for my first year of golfing. My favorite match was when we went to Marquette because it was a fun course and we ate at Long John Silver's afterward."
freshman Tommy Kompier

I think we could've played a lot better than we did. My favorite game was the Conference Tournament because it was one of the few times I did better than the No. 1 player."
senior Santiago Nieto

"The season went better than I expected. My favorite game was when we played Griffith because it was all jokes the whole match."
junior Bob Anderson

"This year's golf season has been an improvement from last year, but we still have a bit of improving to do. My favorite game was the Conference Tournament because I shot a good game and played with two cool golfers, one of whom I played with twice."
junior Danny Atteberry

"I think the season went well. We beat our record from last year. My favorite game was when I shot a 47."
sophomore Jake Wright

"Golf was pretty awesome! My favorite moment was every moment."
sophomore Matt Keown

Left, Practice makes par. Jake Wright uses the time before the match to practice his putting.

Right, Junior Danny Atteberry does a few stretches before the match.

Above, Santiago Nieto reads the green to help improve his chances of making a simple shot.

Above, JV player, freshman Jon Lanman, finishes the hole with a simple putt. Above right, In his first year, Matt Keown showed great improvement throughout the season.

Below, Bob Anderson patiently holds the flag to mark the hole as his opponent watches.

Above, The first two golfers, Bob Anderson and Jake Wright, walk to the green after teeing off.

Below, Tommy Kompier and Jake Wright work on different shots while they wait for their opponents at Lost Marsh.

Right, Junior Emily Matulewicz, manager, gives Bob Anderson and Matt Keown their score cards.

Above, With a cold, windy afternoon ahead of him, Danny Atteberry tees off at the match against GSSC rival Bishop Noll.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

River Forest	L
Westville	W
Morgan Twp.	L
Hammond	W
Noll	L
Marquette	L
Wheeler	L
Lake Station	W
Morton	L
North Newton	W
Griffith	L
Gavit	W
Calumet	L
Conf. Trny.	6th
Clark	L
South Central	L
EC Central	L
Gary Wirt	W
Sectionals	L

Final Record: 6-12

"Tell me what it takes to be number one..."

To experience a Cinderella story once in a player's high school carcer would be a dream come true, but to experience such a story twice is surreal. For eight playcrs and four coaches, this dream bccame a reality. After a heartbreaking loss at regionals last season, the Lady Oilers were determined to win more than ever. With eight returning starters including pitching sensation Mel Dumczich and freshman standout Amanda Blackwell, the odds were in the team's favor. Winning the Pioneer Shootout early in the season ignited the Lady Oilers to go undefeated. With a record of 34-0, the team went on to surpass its own state record. The players worked together to achieve more than ever thought possible.

Above, The 2008 Varsity Softball Team. Front Row: Natalie Mendez, Victoria Franco, Samantha Plavec, Katie Bajzatt, Emelie Lovasko, Zcena Darji. Scorekeeper Jen Hennessey. Second Row: Assistant Coach Kelly Greer, Ashley Kieltyka, Mel Dumczich, Sarah Watkins, Sarah Jansky, Adi Cruz, Assistant Coach Jill Gajewski. Back Row: Assistant Athletic Director Joel Romero, Head Coach Paul Laub, Amanda Blackwell, Chelsae Strabavy, Ashley Pokraka, Assistant Coach Michelle Kobli, Assistant Coach Bruce Stewart.

Above, Junior Adi Cruz returns the ball back to the her pitcher.

Below, Senior Sam Plavec makes contact as she brings in multiple runners.

Below, Freshman Amanda Blackwell eyes the pitch as it is delivered by her Hanover Central opponent.

Left, Sophomore Sarah Jansky is down and ready at second base for the ball to be hit her way.

Below, Senior Natalie Mendez carefully watches the pitcher release the ball.

Above, Junior Mel Dumczich prepares to second-base as she looks to score on her teammate's hit against M.C. Marquette.

Above, The Lady Oilers shake hands with their rival, the BNI Warriors, after a competitive game. The Oilers came back from being down 1-0.

Left, Coach Laub gives a runner signs while coaching third base.

"We really came together as a team this year and accomplished our #1 goal: winning state. It was an amazing season that I will never forget."
junior Adi Cruz

"This undefeated season was a lot of fun. I'm glad we won state—we deserved it!"
junior Mel Dumczich

"Winning state twice in my career was awesome. It was also a great way to end my high school career."
senior Natalie Mendez

"I think we had an outstanding season and it felt great winning state twice in my career. It was also an awesome way to end senior year."
senior Victoria Franco

"Being able to say we won state twice in my career is amazing. We had an awesome season and made memories that I will remember forever. I couldn't have chosen any better way to end high school."
senior Ashley Kieltyka

"Going into this year's season I wasn't expecting to win state again. I took one game at a time. I think by doing that the success felt much more great."
senior Sam Plavec

Left, Mel Dumezich intimidates the Calumet pitcher after making it to third.

Right, Coach Laub talks to his team in the outfield after winning a key game against Hanover Central.

Above, Shortstop Victoria Franco makes the final catch of the inning.

Above, Amanda Blackwell chases down a foul ball hit down the left field line.

Below, Senior Ashley Kieltyka, first baseman, waits to see if the batter connects.

Right, Adi Cruz leads off of first base as she awaits the steal sign from Coach Laub.

Below, Sarah Watkins watches the pitcher throw the ball over the plate as she warms up in the on deck circle.

Right, Sarah Jansky puts the bat on the ball in order to lay down a sacrifice bunt to advance her teammates on the bases.

Above, Catcher Adi Cruz returns to her position after making a diving catch against the fence.

Left, Mel Dumezich fires the ball over the plate. Dumezich led the state with an amazing 489 strikeouts this season alone.

Above, Third baseman Sam Plavec gets ready for the final out of the inning.

Below, Ashley Kieltyka swings the bat in order to drive in runners.

Below, With a big lead, the infield huddles up and shares a few laughs before the beginning of the inning.

Above, Assistant Coach Kelly Greer congratulates senior Victoria Franco for coming up with a crucial hit against the Calumet Warriors.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Calumet	W
Wheeler	W
Lake Station	W
North Newton	W
River Forest	W
M.C. Marquette	W
Bishop Noll	W

Pioneer Shootout

Rossville	W
Caston	W
Pioneer	W

Calumet	W
Clark	W
Wheeler	W
Morgan Twp.	W
Lake Station	W
North Newton	W
Wash. Twp.	W
River Forest	W
M.C. Marquette	W
Gavit	W
Bishop Noll	W
Morton	W
Hebron	W
Clark	W
LaCrosse	W
Hanover Central	W
Kouts	W
Westville	W

Sectionals

Westville	W
Wash. Twp.	W

Regionals

Triton	W
Lakewood Park	W

State Finals

Frontier	W
Tecumseh	W

Final Record: 34-0

VARSITY TENNIS

"You can turn off the sun, but I'm still gonna shine..."

After a successful season and a sectional title brought home last year, the 2008 tennis team had a lot of pressure on them this season. Many students came out this year and each girl put in a great effort. Coach Arthur Young said, "I'm very proud of the team this season despite our record of 7-8. Some people had obstacles to overcome, and, for the most part, we did overcome them." With that never-give-up attitude and a lot of teamwork, the team made their way to sectionals. The Lady Oilers put up a good fight at sectionals, but didn't quite make it to the next round. Junior Araceli Gomez was able to advance to regionals where she won her first match, and, even though she didn't make it to semistate, the team was proud of her performance. Overall, this season proved to be one of perseverance, and, most of all, teamwork.

Above, The Whiting High School Varsity Tennis Team. Back Row: Coach Arthur Young, Araceli Gomez, Tiffany Bayless and Michelle Mirza. Front Row: Melissa Rodriguez, Courtney Winkleman, Rebecca Maslikowski and Samantha Thompson.

Above, Coach Arthur Young discusses the lineup with the team before the match. Below, Manager Sarah Perez and Courtney Winkleman stop and show their Oiler pride with smiles.

Below, Senior Tiffany Bayless concentrates as she returns the ball to her East Chicago opponent.

Above, The team gives each other high fives to get pumped up before their meet against East Chicago Central High School.

Left, Becca Maslikowski hustles to return her opponent's shot. Below, The team shows off their muscles and Oiler spirit before their match.

Above, Junior Courtney Winkleman chops the ball, winning a point for the No. 2 doubles team. Left, Hoping to gain a point during her doubles game against Bishop Noll, senior Samantha Thompson returns the ball.

"Sophomore year was my most successful because my partner and I won MVP. Junior year was just as good; we won the first sectional in WHS history. Overall, my four years have been fun and there are many memories that I'll never forget." senior Melanie Stathakis

"The past four years of tennis have been a blast! I'm so happy that I decided to play as a freshman and I look forward to hopefully playing in the future!" senior Tiffany Bayless

"Being only my second year holding a racquet, I was proud of myself for making varsity. I'm going to miss these girls and I wish them luck in the future!" senior Becca Maslikowski

"I was sad that we didn't win sectionals, but we had a lot of good players. I'm really going to miss the seniors, but I'm looking forward to next year."
junior Araceli Gomez

"The season turned out well. I'm proud of the team for a great effort at sectionals. I'm going to miss everyone and I wish them good luck next year."
senior Samantha Thompson

"It was a good season and we ended well. I loved playing tennis these last four years and having Mr. Young as a coach was great. I'm going to miss it."
senior Michelle Mirza

Left, The senior girls come together for a quick picture on the tennis courts. Right, Araceli Gomez serves another acc to her unlucky opponent.

Above, Varsity players look over their competition at the the beginning of the match. Below, Senior Michelle Mirza returns the ball with little effort in her match against the Bishop Noll Warriors at Whiting Park.

Above, Captain Araceli Gomez announces each varsity player during the lineup before a meet. Below, Michelle Mirza prepares to return the ball, scoring another point.

Above, Courtney Winkleman gets intense as she serves the ball with topspin to her Bishop Noll opponent. Right, The Lady Oiler team performs their ritual and huddles with their racquets while listening to an exciting pep talk from Coach Young before their meet.

Above, Sophomore Melissa Rodriguez stretches to serve the ball during her doubles match.

Left, Senior Rebecca Maslikowski positions herself to hit the ball as it is returned to her in a close game.

Above, Tiffany Bayless shows sportsmanship as she shakes the hand of her Lady Cardinal opponent before they play each other.

Below, The No. 1 doubles team, Melanie Stathakis and Samantha Thompson, prepare to show their teamwork and return the ball as the opposing team serves to their side of the court.

Above, The singles girls, Tiffany Bayless, Michelle Mirza and Araceli Gomez, get together on the courts and smile for a picture at their last home game at the end of the 2008 season.

"Hangin' tough, stayin' hungry..."

This year the junior varsity team had a year of rebuilding. Since some of the players moved up to varsity, the team got off to a slow start. After opening the season in a tie against Gavit, the Oilers ran in to a three game losing streak. The young team answered those losses by defeating their next two opponents, however. "We started our season a little slow, and offensively we had some trouble putting the ball in the end zone. As a team we improved through the season and our young guys got better. As a coach, you can't ask for anything more," said head coach Brett Jennings. After playing only a seven-game season, the Oilers finished with a conference record of 2-3 and an overall record of 2-4-1.

Above, Freshman Emerik Quiroz sees a opening in the Wheeler defense and takes full advantage of it while gaining a few extra yards.

Above, Sophomore Chris Slater evades his Bishop Noll opponent and gets closer to the end zone.

Above, Quarterback Steve Kieltyka gets the snap from center Aldo Lopez

Above, The defense prepares to bring down the Warrior's receiver before he gets the first down.

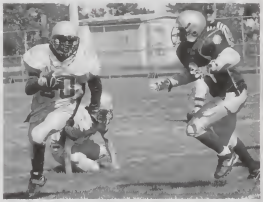
Above, Coach Dan Toleikis discusses strategy with Ryan Willoughby.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Gavit	T
Wheeler	L
South Cent.	L
Bishop Noll	L
H. Newton	W
Calumet	W
Clark	L

Conference 2-3
Overall 2-4-1

Above, The referees explain a controversial call to Coach Jennings and Taylor Pokraka near the end of the game against Wheeler.



Above, Freshman Juwan Simmons burns his opponent as he runs up the side lines with nothing more than the end zone on his mind.

"I think that the season was a success. What I enjoyed most about it was playing for Coach Jennings and seeing what high school football was all about."
freshman Steve Kieltyka

"J V this year was fun. I had a lot of fun moments with my teammates and enjoyed playing the game. I had learned a lot from my teammates and also from my coaches It has made me stronger and know more about the game."
sophomore Eddie Reyes

"This year, J V football was one of the most important things in my life I loved all the experiences with all of my teammates Football has made stronger both physically and mentally. Id like to thank my coaches they're great I can't wait until next year." sophomore Manny Galindo

"Ain't no way they gonna stop me now..."

JV VOLLEYBALL

Above, The 2007 JV Volleyball Team. Standing: Sarah Jansky, Amanda Blackwell, Katie Franciski, Ashley Pokraka, Crystal Godinez, Erica Simunic, Coach Jill Gajewski. Kneeling: Emelie Lovasko, Elizabeth Murzyn, Monica Kazmierski, Veronica Gomez, Evelyn Skylas, Zeena Darji. Sitting: Captains Araceli Gomez and Haleigh Suarez.

The 2007 season for the JV volleyball team was definitely the best they've had in years. With five upcoming freshmen ready to step up their game and new coach Jill Gajewski eager to take the reigns, the Lady Oilers worked hard throughout the summer and couldn't wait for the season to begin. Although the girls lost their first game to Washington Township, captains Haleigh Suarez and Araceli Gomez kept their fellow teammates optimistic. As the season progressed, the team passed well, spiked hard and defeated many teams that they couldn't in the past, including Wheeler and Kouts. The girls ended the season with a 20-11 record and couldn't have been happier. "This year I was fortunate enough to have a great group of young athletes," said coach Jill. "I am proud of our accomplishments and look forward to next season."

Above, Front row players have a ritual handshake before the ball is served. Below, Beth Murzyn, freshman, gets ready to serve the ball. Murzyn served well for the Oilers all season.

Right, Setting a beautiful backset to a teammate is junior Araceli Gomez. Below, Libero, Lauren Kieltyka, situates herself properly to make a terrific pass.

Above, Coach Jill talks to her players during a timeout while the girls take a breather from their close game against Morgan Township.

Below, Sarah Jansky, sophomore, prepares to hit a front row attack against the opposing team.

Above, Freshman Ashley Pokraka and sophomore Monica Kazmierski laugh and become relaxed before match two starts. Left, Enthusiastic teammates cheer and shout some encouraging words to their fellow players during the game.

"Our season was quite successful and I enjoyed every minute of being on the team. I look forward to see who comes out to play next year."
junior Zeena Darji

"I had a lot of fun on JV this year. I sprained my ankle last year and wasn't able to play, so it was a new experience. We had a great season."
sophomore Erica Simunic

"Volleyball this year was a great experience. Both the coaches and the older girls were nice and very helpful. I can't wait until next year."
freshman Emelie Lovasko

JV BOYS BASKETBALL

"They say a family that plays together, stays together..."

With new coaches, Aaron Mercer and Jim Toporski, the JV boys basketball team began their season with a new attitude. They worked on fundamentals such as dribbling, passing and shooting drills. Their biggest goal they accomplished was to work together as a team. Even with only four wins, the team improved upon previous years' records. With many young players, they look to build on their experience and be competitive next season.

Above, The 2007-2008 Boys JV Basketball Team. Alex Leddesma, Jake Wright, Chuck Meyers, Chris Moynihan, Krunal Darji and Karan Darji

Left, Senior Michael Rokicki catches a tough pass as he is guarded by his opponent.

Right, Junior Chuck Meyers uses one of his post moves to get around his opponent and put the ball in the basket.

Above, Junior Alex Leddesma tries to put the ball up strong as he drives through a crowded lane.

Above, Assistant coach Jim Toporski explains the importance of staying low on defense.

Below, Head coach Aaron Mercer draws up the next play for offense during a timeout

Whiting Oilers Vs...	
Washington Twp.	W
Clark	L
Griffith	L
H.C. Marquette	L
Calumet	L
Westville	L
River Forest	W
Horth Hewton	L
LaCrosse	L
Lake Station	L
Wheeler	L
GSSC Tourney	
Calumet	L
River Forest	W
Bishop Noll	L
Gavit	L
Hanover Central	L
Grant Park	W
Morton	L
Hebron	L
Clark	L
Final Record	4-16

Right, Junior Chris Moynihan quickly passes the ball through the hands of his Lake Station defender.

Left, Sophomore Karan Darji crosses over his opponent to drive to the basket.

Above, Sophomore Krunal Darji looks to inbound the ball to one of his teammates.

"Basketball was fun. JV was a good learning experience. I also cannot wait until next season."
sophomore Krunal Darji

"The JV basketball season was great this year. We won quite a few games and learned a lot from practices."
sophomore Jake Wright

"Basketball season was fun this year. I learned a lot and improved my game. I am also looking forward to this upcoming season."
junior Chuck Meyers

JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

"They're playing basketball, we love that basketball..."

Above, The 2007-2008 JV Girls Basketball Team. First Row: Lupe Cornejo, Megan Jakovich, Emelie Lovasko, Jennifer Hennessy. Second Row: Megan Kazmierski, Caitlin Wrzalinski, Amanda Blackwell, Elizabeth Murzyn, Melissa Rodriguez. Standing: Coach Tim Kompier, Ashley Pokraka, Coach Matt Moynihan, Chelsae Strabavy, Coach Kevin Moynihan.

Starting this year's season off was a bit different from other seasons. With a young team and a new coach, the team needed to learn to come together as a whole. "The team improved a lot through the season and and I am more than grateful to have coached such wonderful girls," stated coach Tim Kompier. After being retired from coaching for several years, Coach Kompier, when asked, was more than excited to take the job as being the JV girls basketball coach. With a young team this year, the Lady Oilers were able to end the season with a respectable record and came out much better players than when the season began.

Left, Beth Murzyn , playing offense, guards the ball in order to make a basket for the Oilers.

Above, Lupe Cornejo dribbles past the opposing team towards the basket. Below, Coach Kompier shares some inspiring words with the team.

Right, Freshman Ashley Pokraka puts up a jump shot adding two points in the Lady Oilers' favor. Below, Freshman Jennifer Hennessy dribbles the ball around her BNI defender.

Above, Ashley Pokraka goes in for the basket as she is trailed by not only her opponents, but by her teammates as well.

Left, Freshman Amanda Blackwell is careful while looking for an open teammate to pass the ball to.

Above, Dodging the other team, Beth Murzyn quickly reaches for the ball before anyone else can get it.

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Kouts	***L***
Clark	***W/W***
Gavit	***L***
Westville	***L***
MC Marquette	***W***
Wash. Twp.	***W***
Calumet	***L***
Griffith	***L***
River Forest	***W***
LaCrosse	***W***
North Newton	***L***
Lake Station	***W***
Wheeler	***L***
LaCrosse	***W***
Hebron	***L***
Bishop Noll	***L***

Final Record
8-9

"JV basketball was a blast. I had so much fun. I learned a lot and the coaches were great. I'm really looking forward to next season."
freshman Jennifer Hennessy

"My first year of high school basketball was really fun. The coaches taught me a lot. We ended the season with a great record."
freshman Emelie Lovasko

"This year was so much fun. I learned so much. I loved the coaches and I got a lot closer with my teammates. I can't wait until next year."
freshman Elizabeth Murzyn

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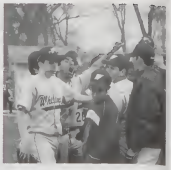
"Take me out to the ball game..."

This year the JV baseball team worked extremely hard. There were many newcomers to the team. Overall they performed well while gaining experience they will need for varsity. "We don't judge the success of a JV season based off a record, but rather by the improvement the players made throughout the season. I'd say we had a successful season. The varsity is looking for some young kids to fill some big shoes; we need some kids to step up and accept the challenge," said coach Brett Jennings.

Above, The 2008 JV Baseball Team. Standing: Manager Lauren Johnson, Matthew Aponte, Christopher Moynihan, Luis Lazaro, Ryan Willoughby, Michael Unate, Coach Jennings. Kneeling: Manuel Galindo, Rudy Perez, Michael Roldan, Steven Kietyka, Camilo Campos. Sitting: Thomas Flores, Karan Darji, Krunal Darji, Emerik Quiroz.



Above, Before going up to bat, the team gets into a huddle so Coach Jennings can give them a talk. Below, Freshman Steven Kietyka slides into base before his opponent was able to tag him out.

Left, Junior Chris Moynihan throws some practice pitches to his teammate before the game. Right, Freshman Matthew Aponte fires a strike at his Clark opponent. Aponte played both JV and varsity this year.

JV BASEBALL

Whiting Oilers Vs...

Boone Grove	T
Noll	L
Morton	L
River Forest	W
Clark	L
Noll	L
Griffith	W
Griffith	L
North Newton	L
Clark	L
Wheeler	L
Wheeler	L

GSSC 1-6
Overall 2-10-1

Above, Catcher Joey Murzyn, sophomore, gives the sign to his pitcher in hopes of another strikeout.

Above, Freshman Michael Roldan bats away and comes up with a clutch hit in a game against the Clark Pioneers.

"Being part of the JV baseball team is about hard work, having fun and learning to be a powerful leader."
freshman Camilo Campos

"JV baseball was a good experience, especially when I hit my first home run. It felt great. I'm looking forward to next season."
freshman Emerik Quiroz

"This year JV baseball was really fun. Unlike the varsity team, JV was a lot more relaxing."
freshman Matthew Aponte

"Walk a mile in my tennis shoes..."

Above, The 2008 JV Tennis Team. Bottom Row: Christabel Gutierrez, Amy Mahony. Middle Row: Kim Atteberry, Megan Jakovich, Jessica Arredondo, Sarah Murieko, Berenice Frausto. Top Row: Coach Arthur Young, Ashley Thompson, Maegan Stribiak, Katherine Staley, Crystal Godinez, Megan Kazmierski.

The 2008 JV tennis season can be summed up with a simple description: a learning experience. As spring rolled in and the weather warmed up, the Lady Oilers made their way into the gym and onto the courts. Taking initiative from their older counterparts, the members of the JV team worked hard to prove themselves to both Coach Young and their rivals. Many players ended up competing against older girls, making the matches all the more challenging. Regardless, they were able to overcome these obstacles and achieve success.

Left, Ashley Thompson, Kim Atteberry and Sarah Murieko take a break from the action.

Above, Crystal Godinez carefully serves the ball over to her competition. Below, Freshman Megan Jakovich swiftly returns a serve from her opponent.

Right, Sophomore Katherine Staley walks across the court to switch sides. Below, Megan Jakovich and Jessica Arredondo show their enthusiasm for their next match.

Above, Freshman Megan Kazmierski instinctively extends her reach out in order to send back her opponent's serve.

Below, Sophomore Crystal Godinez concentrates as she prepares for her opponent's next move.

Above, Sophomore Kimberly Atteberry powerfully serves the ball to her opponent. Left, Junior Christabel Gutierrez mentally prepares herself in order to do her best while playing defense at the Whiting vs. Bishop Noll match.

"Tennis was great this year! I'm getting better and can't wait until next year. I'm going to miss the seniors, though."
sophomore
Ashley Thompson

"This year was challenging for us because the JV really had to work hard for their spots. All in all, though, it was a fun season."
sophomore
Kim Atteberry

"This was a challenging year. There was a lot more competition, but I still enjoyed it."
sophomore
Katherine Staley

"If you start me up, give it all you got, you never, never, never stop..."

The 2007-2008 school year was filled of many firsts. Perhaps the most exciting of these was the assemblage of a junior varsity softball team. Varsity assistant coach Michelle Kobli and junior varsity volleyball coach Jill Gajewski were appointed as the coaches for the team. As soon as the athletic underclassmen heard the good news, they gathered up their mitts and bats and started to practice hard. Throughout the season, the girls improved greatly and impressed many people. Coach Kobli couldn't have been happier. "The girls were willing to learn and worked hard and that makes for a successful season and a great experience for all. The girls, Jill and I are thankful to Mr. Laub and everyone else who was involved in giving us this opportunity."

Left, Third baseman, sophomore Erica Simunic, prepares to field a ball. Right, Throwing the ball to the pitcher from a cut-off play is freshman Jasmine Bejar.

Below, Shelby Eudakis, sophomore pitches a fastball to her opponent. Eudakis pitched nine games out of sixteen this year and won seven.

Above, The JV Softball Team. Sitting: Natalie Prskalo, Jasmine Bejar, Emily Henricy, Emelie Lovasko. Kneeling: Zeena Darji, Beth Murzyn, Lauren Vega, Rachel Grunhard. Standing: Assistant Coach Jill Gajewski, Taylor McNinch, Shelby Eudakis, Chelsae Strabavy, Julianne Stribiak, Erica Siminuc, Coach Michelle Kobli.

Right, Freshman Emelie Lovasko not only started at second base for the junior varsity team, but also dressed for the varsity team.

Below, Freshman pitcher Ashley Pokraka struck out a total of 67 batters this season.

Whiting Lady Oilers Vs...

Wheeler	L
Lake Station	W
Boone Grove	W
North Newton	W
River Forest	W
Bishop Noll	L
Wheeler	W
Clark	W
North Newton	W
Lake Station	W
River Forest	W
South Central	W
Gavit	W
Bishop Noll	W
Clark	W
Hebron	W
Morton	N/A

Left, Catcher Beth Murzyn gets in her position to catch a pitch thrown by Ashley Pokraka.

Above, First-year player, junior Emily Henricy, dives to catch a line drive in right field.

Left, Senior Natalie Prskalo gets a hit against the opposing team, and then steals second base. Prskalo was very intimidating on the bases.

Right, The Lady Oilers huddle up in the infield before the start of the new inning against Wheeler.

"At first, I was a little scared to try out, but then I became excited to hear about the JV team and was glad that I had a chance to play softball."
freshman Beth Murzyn

"My highlight of the season was probably our comeback win against North Newton. We played hard and never gave up. It was a great game."
sophomore Chelsae Strabavy

"Pitching for the JV team was so fun. Last year, I didn't get to pitch, so it was diffirent for me this year. We had an awesome season."
sophomore Shelby Eudakis

"We are the champions...again..."

Above, The 2008 Class 1A State Champion Lady Oiler Softball Team.

"To Be Continued..." seemed to be the recurring theme for the Lady Oilers in their quest for a state championship. Having taken a 2-0 lead against Frontier High School after four innings on Friday night, the game was called due to rain and especially streaks of lightning that brightened the Indianapolis skyline.

The Oilers were scheduled to finish this semifinal game on Saturday afternoon, but Mother Nature did not cooperate. All games were postponed with the Oilers returning to Whiting and scheduled to play again in Indy on Monday afternoon. This was the first time in the 24-year history of the softball state tournament that the tourney was not completed on Saturday.

In a game that took about 68 hours to complete, the Oilers finally defeated Frontier by a score of 2-0 and awaited the winner of the second game between Indianapolis Lutheran and Tecumseh.

After another rain delay, the Whiting Oilers were to face the Tecumseh Braves for the 1A State Championship. The Oilers jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the 5th inning when rain again forced the game to be rescheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Instead of making another round trip, the team stayed overnight in Indianapolis with the knowledge that they only had three innings left to achieve their dream.

Not to be denied, the Oilers finally beat Tecumseh by a score of 3-0. It was a perfect ending to a perfect season of 34-0. As both teams lined up on the foul lines awaiting their medals, Victoria Franco was announced as the recipient of the prestigious IHSAA Mental Attitude Award.

The victorious players were met by an escort of police cars and fire trucks as they proudly were greeted by the Whiting community. After a pep rally at the softball field, the girls, as well as the coaches, took a ride around the town on a fire truck.

Over the last three years, the Lady Oilers have won two state championships with undefeated records of 33-0 and 34-0. As to what will happen next year? The answer to that question remains to be continued..."

Head Coach Paul Laub

Above, Dynamic duo Mel Dumezich and Adi Cruz make an unstoppable and unbeatable pitcher-catcher combination.

Below, Coach Stewart and Coach Laub happily take a ride around town on a fire-truck after winning state.

Above, Freshman Amanda Blackwell patiently waits to receive her state championship medal.

Below, Senior Victoria Franco proudly displays her IHSAA Mental Attitude Award with her parents at the state championship game.

Left, the Lady Oilers celebrate their 3-0 victory over the Tecumseh Braves in the state finals. The Oilers went undefeated throughout the season and ended with a record of 34-0.

Left, After receiving their state championship plaque, the Oilers celebrate a dream come true while being surrounded by numerous fans and paparazzi.

Right, Seniors Ashley Kieltyka, Victoria Franco, Natalie Mendez and Sam Plavec take a few minutes away from celebrating to show off their tremendous accomplishment.

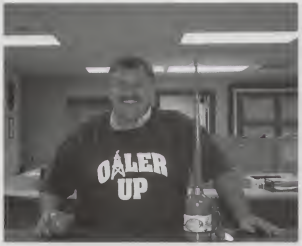
Above, Librarian Ms. Beverly Sheldon looks forward to a busy retirement. Below, After 42 years of service as a teacher, coach, sponsor and counselor, Mr Robert Klosek says goodbye.

Left, Spanish students travel across the ocean to Europe where they practiced the language, learned different customs and experienced new cuisines in five different countries

Below, President Bill Clinton visited Whiting High School, one of the four destinations in Northwest Indiana. He came to talk about his wife Hillary's presidential campaign.

Left, Juniors Josh Thompson and Danny Atteberry receive their first place State medals in Robot Ramble. Right, Sophomore Vanessa Jimenez and freshman Max Mills-Groninger win first in the Oceanography event at IU.

Below, Whiting Middle School Principal Mr. Jay Harker served as the interim high school principal during Mr. Flick's illness during the second semester.



Above, Principal Dirk Flick took the reigns of Whiting High 13 years ago, guided WHS to academic excellence, maintained strict discipline and won District 1 IASP Principal of the Year twice in his career. (See Memorium, pgs.122-123)

Above, Twelve new members are inducted into the National Honor Society, a prestigious organization at Whiting High School that helps both the school and the community.

Left, The Oilers celebrate a big win over rival George Rogers Clark and Coach Lenz's 100th career win. The baseball team won their regional and advanced to semistate and ended their season with a record of 20-12.

"Remember when..."

Now Playing... 2007-2008 Shuffle

Above, The Science Olympiad team, led by sponsors Mr. Nichols and Mr. Long, takes ninth place out of 24 schools at the State competition held at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Another year at Whiting High School has come and gone, for some too soon, for others not soon enough. This year's theme was music because we feel that songs inspire emotions; they can make us laugh or make us cry. Perhaps the most unexpected event this year was the passing of our beloved principal, Mr. Dirk Flick. However, throughout the past 180 days, we have made new friends, stepped out of our comfort zones and experienced many new events that will remain in our memories for years to come. Even though it is a time of goodbyes, we all need to remember that music can connect us all back to each other in ways we had never thought of, like that one special song that takes one back to football games or dances or special times with friends. No matter what, our years at Whiting will always be a special time in all of our lives.

Right, Junior girls Haleigh Suarez, Zeena Darji and Christabel Gutierrez not only helped with the preparation for prom, but also had fun dancing the night away.

Right, The formation of a JV softball team brings new talent to the sport with the help of coaches Jill Gajewski and Michelle Kobli.

Above, The Lady Oiler softball team had an undefeated season record of 34-0 and became state champs for the second time in three years.

Left, The Class of 2008 listens to the speeches of many speakers, including Valedictorian Victoria Franco and Salutatorian Haydee Lara, at their high school commencement ceremony.

Above, Thirty Whiting High bookworms take a break from their reading to go on the read-up field trip to none other than Navy Pier in Chicago.

Left, Junior Araceli Gomez served well and battled many tough opponents during her tennis season and qualified for regionals.

Right, Nathan Hale Elementary teacher Mr. Scott Allen adds a flavorful twist to the spring production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" as the comical candy genius Willy Wonka.

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LOVE,

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Class of 2008

Hold tight to the dreams you have today and walk with God in their direction!

BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL,

Mama Shari

From the very first day of Kindergarten to the very last day of High School...

You have accomplished so much! CONGRATULATIONS on all of the successes! For all of the challenges ahead of you, I give you my RICHEST BLESSINGS! Here's to your future, Brocker B! Momma is so proud of you!!!

I LOVE YOU INFINITY,

Momma

CLASS OF 2008

"Dream Big"
(Author Unknown)

If there were ever a time to dare,
To make a difference
To embark on something worth doing
It is now.
Not for any grand cause, necessarily--
But for something that tugs at your heart
Something that is worth your aspirations
Something that is your dream.
You owe it to yourself to make your days count.
Have fun. Dig deep. Stretch.
Dream big.

Know, though, that things worth doing seldom come easy.
There will be times when you want to turn around,
Pack it up, and call it quits.
Those times tell you that you are pushing yourself,
and that you are not afraid to learn by trying.

Persist.

Because with an idea, determination, and the right tools,
You can do great things.
Let your instincts, your intellect, and your heart guide you.

Trust.

Believe in the incredible power of the human mind.
Of doing something that makes a difference.
Of working hard. Of laughing and hoping.
Of lasting friends.
Of all the things that will cross your path.

Next year, the start of something new
brings the hope of something great.
Anything is possible.
There is only one you.
And you will pass this way but once.

Do it Big!

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

Mrs. Linda Wilson,
Class Sponsor

In Memorium

"Beyond the door,
There's peace I'm sure,
And I know they'll be no more
Tears in heaven."

On Tuesday, June 4, our leader, Principal Dirk Flick, lost his brave fight to cancer. Mr. Flick began his teaching career as an industrial arts teacher at Hobart Junior High School in 1976 after graduating from Indiana State University. He went on to teach at Merrillville High School and Clark High/ Middle Schools. In 1986, he became principal intern at Clark, then served as Director of Maintenance/Grounds/ Business Department for the School City of Hammond. In 1993, Mr. Flick served as assistant principal at Whiting High School, then spent a year as assistant principal at Crown Point High School, and finally returned home to Whiting High School where he served as principal since 1995. Over the course of his career, Mr. Flick obtained his Master's Degree in Education, completed requirements for his Secondary Administrative License, and earned his E.D.S. in School Administration.

During his tenure as principal, Mr. Flick was known for being a strict disciplinarian who believed his students had the right to learn in an atmosphere that allowed teachers to teach without distraction. Due to promoting an environment conducive to learning, Whiting High School has been consistently ranked at the top of the state for its ISTEP-GQE scores. In addition, WHS has achieved the distinction of AYP Exemplary Status, and this year was a recipient of the prestigious Indiana Blue Ribbon Award and National Nominee.

Mr. Flick believed in the power of choice and instilled the importance of making the right choices in his students from the moment they came in as freshmen. He not only was a strong proponent for education, but also fought passionately for other causes in which he believed. A great sports enthusiast, Mr. Flick was probably best known throughout the state of Indiana for his fight for high school class sports. He led a boycott against Nike, which did not support the multiclass system. Mr. Flick's dream was achieved in 1997, when the multiclass system was implemented, giving small schools like Whiting a chance to excel. He was proud of the many accomplishments of the sports teams over the years.

His work has also not gone unrecognized by his peers. Mr. Flick has been honored as IASP District 1 Principal of the Year twice in his career, in 2006 and 2008. His students likewise appreciate Mr. Flick's role in helping them to achieve the type of education they need in order to be successful. "He was very well-repected and well-loved," School City of Whiting Superintendent Dr. Sandra Martinez said. "He definitely leaves a legacy at Whiting High School."

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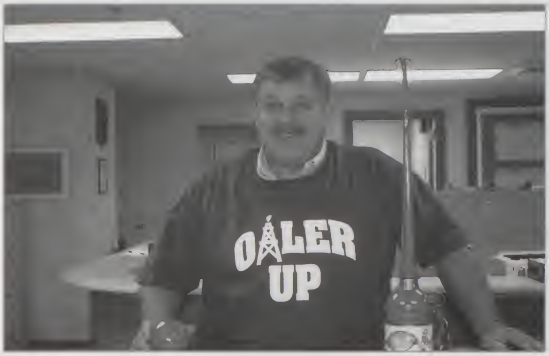
MENTOR

FAN/FRIEND



Mr. Flick has been Whiting High School principal since 1995. Each of our lives has been impacted by him in a special way. Despite his absence towards the end of this year, his presence has remained with us. We have all respected him for his philosophy that "every child has a right to an education and no one has the right to disrupt that." We will always remember his talks to us about "CHOICE" and we hope that we continue to make the right ones as we go forward with our lives.

We will never forget him.
We are grateful for these precious memories.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to the Reflector staff, Lisa Keene, Julie Ritchie, Ms. Hylek, ad patrons, additional photographers and everyone else who helped to make this yearbook possible.

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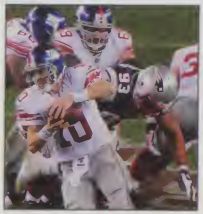
WORLD YEARBOOK 07-08



WORLD YEARBOOK 07-08

WORLD YEARBOOK 07-08

HERFF JONES®

More than 90 million votes were cast when the world was asked to name the "New Seven Wonders of the World." The man-made sites selected include the Coliseum in Rome, Mexico's Chichen Itza, Petra in Jordan, Peru's Machu Picchu, the Taj Mahal in India, Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil, and The Great Wall of China.

A team of 30 physicians worked 24 hours to remove extra limbs from a two-year old born with eight limbs.

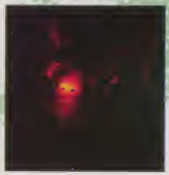
The bald eagle was removed from the endangered species list after 30 years.

The first Baby Boomers became eligible to apply for Social Security benefits, beginning a stress on the system.

Steve Jobs introduces the MacBook Air, the world's thinnest notebook computer at January's Macworld.

WORLD EVENTS

October wildfires, which forced evacuation of nearly 1 million people, burned more than 600 square miles and destroyed as many as 1,500 homes over 19 days in Southern California. Santa Ana winds and extreme drought worsened the impact of the fires; nine people were killed and 85 others — including at least 61 firefighters — were injured.

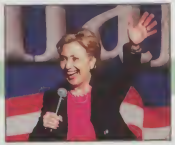


Researchers in South Korea cloned a cat and modified its genes so that it glows red in ultraviolet light.

The space shuttle Endeavor landed safely in August despite exterior damage that had worried NASA.

John McCain emerged from "Super Tuesday" as a strong favorite among Republicans. Mike Huckabee remained his only challenger for the party nomination after Mitt Romney suspended his campaign.

Even after "Super Tuesday" and the Potomac Primaries, the race between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama for the Democratic presidential nomination was too close to call.



The Billy Graham Library was dedicated in NC in June less than two weeks before the evangelist's wife, Ruth, died.

Cristina Fernandez is Argentina's first elected female president.

Scientists in Moscow unveiled the remains of a frozen mammoth found in the Siberian tundra in May. A reindeer herder found the frozen carcass, which has been dated back 10,000 years to the end of the last Ice Age.

Tesla Motors, a Silicon Valley start-up, pre-sold all 600 of its $98,000 all-electric Roadsters set for production in 2008.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair resigned after 13 years in office.

Researchers uncovered two new species — a giant rat and a tiny possum — in a remote jungle in Indonesia in June.

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was assassinated.

The disputed December re-election of president Mwai Kibaki caused unrest and violence in Kenya.

Unusual cold plagued Iraq. Baghdad's first snow in memory magnified the impact of persistent electrical outages.

Great Britain banned smoking in enclosed public spaces in July. Individuals caught violating the law will be fined $400.

Nintendo's profit doubled this year, thanks to sales of 20 million Wii devices.

Meteorologists blame this winter's tornados across the South on La Niña (the cooling of Pacific waters).

Internet service in Asia, the Middle East and northern Africa was interrupted when an undersea Mediterranean cable failed in January. Many businesses were brought to a standstill, but most Middle East governments had backup satellite systems that minimized the impact.

After an eight-year legal battle, a major power company agreed to spend $4.6 billion to reduce chemical emissions blamed for spreading acid rain across the Northeast.

Velib', a program that has nearly 20,000 bicycles posted at 750 stations around Paris is Socialist Mayor Bertrand Delanoe's latest effort to make his city more green and bike-friendly. The program allows Parisians and tourists to use the bikes for a minimal fee.

Astronaut Daniel Tani experienced something no other American has ever faced when his 90-year-old mother was killed in a Chicago train accident in December while he was in orbit aboard the international space station.

The Homeland Security Department announced plans for its REAL ID Act, which is designed to make it harder for con artists, illegal immigrants and terrorists to get government-issued IDs. The plan will increase requirements of people applying for drivers licenses.

New words inducted into the English language in 2007 by Merriam-Webster included "ginormous" (a contraction of sorts of gigantic and enormous), "Bollywood," "sudoku" and "speed dating". In all, nearly 100 words were added to the company's collegiate dictionary.

The entire span of an interstate bridge broke into sections and collapsed into the Mississippi River during the evening rush hour in Minneapolis. The August 2 catastrophe killed 13, injured more than 60 and called to light deficiencies in many of America's bridges needing repair.

The national debt expanded roughly $1.4 billion a day, nearly $1 million a minute. Economists said that an economic slowdown may be looming and that higher taxes or cuts in government programs are possible.

Oil prices hit a new high of $100 a barrel when the markets welcomed 2008. The previous record, $99.29, was set in November, 2007 as the year ended with the decade's largest annual price increase. A falling dollar, violence in Nigeria and bad weather in Mexico were among the causes of the drop in U.S. crude supplies.

Medical researchers decoded the DNA of the cat and anticipate new information in the search for treatments to both feline and human diseases.

In Spain, a new $179 million telescope became operational in July. The Great Canary Telescope took seven years to build and construction involved more than 1,000 employees from nearly 100 companies worldwide.

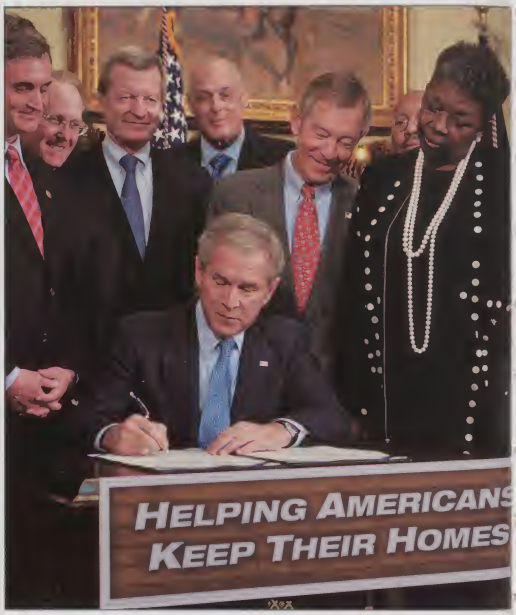
At the Consumer Electronic Show, inventors demonstrated a driverless car and a $2,500 11-inch light-emitting diode television which offers contrast more than 30 times sharper than a current screen.

A Bend, Oregon man flew 193 miles toward Idaho in a lawn chair lifted by 105 helium balloons. During his nine-hour trip, 47-year-old Kent Couch used a GPS and a BB gun and he took his video camera along to prove he'd flown. The trip was Couch's second; in September, he was aloft six hours.

After just 40 years in existence, more than 1.5 million ATM machines simplify life.

Concern about lead-based paints caused world-wide recalls of millions of toys produced in China.

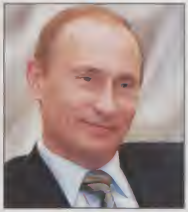
Ice storms crippled the Midwest when freezing rain coated electrical wires causing far-reaching power outages.



Both the House and the Senate approved a $146 billion economic stimulus package which called for one-time tax rebates aimed at rejuvenating the economy. The rebates were expected to begin arriving in early summer. The plan also included temporary tax breaks for businesses and measures to help struggling homeowners.

Citing an increasingly polarized Middle East, more than 45 nations attended November peace talks in Annapolis.

In his final year as Russia's president Vladmir Putin was named Person of The Year by "Time" magazine.



Fidel Castro, Cuba's leader since 1959, announced in February that he would "not aspire to nor accept" another term as President. Days later his brother Raul was elected the new President of Cuba.

The long winter drought and July heat wave across central and southeast Europe took temperatures as high as 115° F, caused fires and contributed to the deaths of more than 500 in Hungary alone. At the same time, it was flooding in Britain.

Former VP Al Gore and the UN's Panel on Climate Change shared the Nobel Peace Prize.

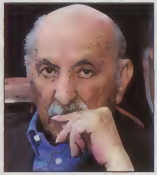
Chrysler announced cuts of 15% of its workforce in November, following February layoffs.

A standoff in Hillary Clinton's New Hampshire campaign offices ended without incident.

Jordanian and Israeli farmers used barn owls to control the crop-eating rat population.

A week of heavy November rains caused rivers to overflow and left 70% of the Mexican state of Tabasco underwater.

The August collapse of Utah's Crandall Canyon coal mine killed six miners and three rescue workers.



Mohammed Zahir Shah, the last king of Afghanistan, died in July, after reigning for 40 years.

Boeing Co. unveiled its first new model since 1995, the Dreamliner 787 will enter service in 2008.

U.S. military troop casualties numbered at least 3,941 since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003.

Scientists have discovered 11 new species of plants and animals in central Vietnam.

After selling more than 525,000 iPhones in the first weekend of their release, Apple moved into third position in the global smartphone market by year's end. More than 4 million iPhones were distributed in the first six months.

The UN convened in an emergency session on human rights abuses after protests and violence in Myanmar.

A wireless memory card won "Last Gadget Standing" honors at the electronics show.

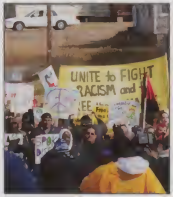
The worst wildfires ever in Greece killed more than 64 people, destroyed hundreds of homes in southern villages and burned more of the country's rapidly dwindling forestland than in any single year on record.

India-based Tata Motors rolled out its no-frills Nano this year, but the car will not be available in American markets.

Polaroid announced it will stop making film for its instant cameras.

In December, a Rhode Island couple dining on clams found a rare purple pearl; a 1-in-2-million find.

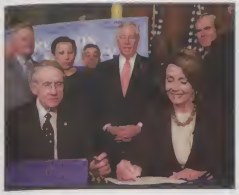
Lady Bird Johnson, the widow of former President Lyndon Baines Johnson, died at 94.



Issues of discrimination and differential treatment were central to Jena 6 protests in Louisiana.

The world's largest solar farm was planned for Fresno, California, where the 640-acre farm would power local cities.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-California, crafted legislation that will increase fuel economy, boosting mileage standards 40 percent to 35 mpg.



When Palestinian militants breached the Gaza-Egypt border wall, thousands of refugees poured into Egypt for supplies.

Lambourghini unveiled its Reventon sports car at the Frankfurt Motor Show in September. They will produce only 20 of these cars to be sold for $1.4 million each.

Climate changes appear to be destabilizing vast ice sheets in western Antarctica, which worries researchers who had previously believed the area was protected from global warming. They say the melt is more dramatic than previously imagined.

February blizzards in China paralyzed roads, railways and airports in a region used to mild winters. Officials fear economic losses may reach $3 billion.

Missing adventurer Steve Fossett was declared dead in February.

Sir Edmund Hillary, the first to successfully scale Mount Everest, passed away at 88.

2007 was the year of the threequel. Five of the six top-grossing films were continuations of previous storylines. "Spider-Man 3", "Shrek the Third", "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" and "The Bourne Ultimatum" brought millions of viewers to theaters across the country. Harry Potter films extended past the threequel; "The Order of the Phoenix" was the series' fifth installment.

The announcement of the Golden Globes, usually the first Hollywood awards extravaganza of the season, was reduced to an hour-long press conference at the Beverly Hilton on Jan. 13 because of the writers strike. The red carpets were rolled out just six weeks later for the Academy Awards after the strike ended.

The DVD market experienced its first-ever decline when sales/rentals dropped 2% to $23.7 billion, yet it generated more sales than music, video games or the theatrical box office.

Kelly Clarkson, the season one winner from "American Idol", cancelled her 36-date summer arena tour saying, "Touring is just too much right now." Her third album, "My December," was released in June and certified platinum by year's end.

Actor Dennis Quaid and his wife Kimberly sued Baxter Healthcare Corp. after their newborn twins were given an overdose of the blood thinner Heparin because the vials containing different doses of the drug were packaged too similarly. The Quaid twins recovered, but investigators learned that a number of infants had died following similar situations.

The world bid farewell to entertainer-turned-gameshow producer Merv Griffin, larger-than-life tenor Luciano Pavarotti, French mime Marcel Marceau, daredevil and stuntman Evel Knievel and controversial rock pioneer Ike Turner.

Top-selling Country Artist Carrie Underwood announced plans for a pair of 2008 tours.

"No Country for Old Men" swept Hollywood awards, concluding with the Oscar for Best Picture.

Johnny Depp was Hollywood's top money maker, said Quigley Publishing's 2007 annual poll.

Sony's "Spider-Man 3" was America's top grossing film of the year. Starring Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and Topher Grace, the film was released May 4, 2007. Although it received mixed reviews from critics, Spider-Man 3 broke most of the opening weekend records, both in U.S. and foreign markets.

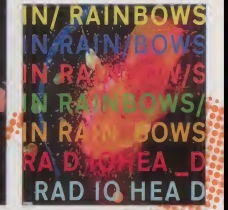
Live Earth created a global musical audience on July 7, 2007; the 24 hours of music across seven continents was delivered with a call to combat the climate crisis.

America Ferrera's Best Actress in a Comedy was one of 11 "Ugly Betty" Emmy nominations.

"High School Musical 2" premiered as the most-watched basic cable telecast in history. The movie, which attracted 17.24 million viewers, featured Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens and friends. "High School Musical 3", a full-length feature film and "High School Musical 4" are being planned.

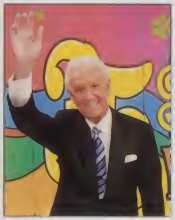
The Police reunion tour, which sold more than 1.8 million tickets, earned more than any other concert tour.

Radiohead released their seventh album, "In Rainbows," online (set your own price) and followed with a box set.



entertainment

Kanye West's album "Graduation" sold more copies (957,000) in its first week than any other since 2005.



After 50 years on daytime TV, Bob Barker retired as the host of "The Price is Right" in June, 2007 at 83.

Miley Cyrus' tour included songs from her album and her "Hannah Montana" TV show.

Officials said that the death of actor Heath Ledger, found in his NYC apartment in January, was accidental.

Popular TV Shows

30 Rock

Dancing With The Stars

CSI

Grey's Anatomy

Lost

Heroes

Friday Night Lights

House

The Office

Hit Movies

Hairspray

Bee Movie

Alvin and the Chipmunks

The Simpsons Movie

Rush Hour 3

National Treasure: Book of Secrets

I Am Legend

Enchanted

Top Albums

Nickelback: All the Right Reasons

Josh Groban: Noel

Gwen Stefani: The Sweet Escape

Norah Jones: Not Too Late

Linkin Park: Minutes To Midnight

Rascal Flatts: Me and My Gang

Taylor Swift: Taylor Swift

MercyMe: All That Is Within Me

Princes Harry and William held a concert in honor of their mother. The July fundraiser was held on the 46th anniversary of Princess Diana's birth.

Marvel Comics buried Captain America in July after 66 years of heroics.

Fergie's "Big Girls Don't Cry" was her third #1 and the year's most downloaded track

"The Sopranos", an HBO series which broke rules, told complex stories and both changed and enforced stereotypes, ended after six seasons.

The seventh and final volume in the Harry Potter series set all-time records in book sales in July, tallying more than 8.3 million books sold in the first 24 hours.

The Spice Girls, the original "Girl Power" band of the 1990s, reunited for an 11-show world tour of their first concerts since they broke up in 2001.

After appearing on the Ellen DeGeneres Show to kick off their first headlining tour, New Jersey's Jonas Brothers launched an ambitious schedule.

Breakout Shia LaBeouf starred in "Disturbia" and "Transformers."

Endorsement deals landed Beyonce at #5 on the list of "Cash Queens of Music."

After nearly four months on strike, the Writers Guild of America and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers reached a settlement on Feb. 12. Production halted in November when more than 12,000 writers joined the effort, but the industry was prepared to gear back up quickly.

After a global box office of more than $700 million, "Transformers" sold more than 8.3 million DVDs in the first six days after its release.

Disney/Pixar's "Ratatouille" won the Golden Globe for Best Animated Feature Film and earned five Academy Award nominations.

"The Assassination of Jesse James", starring Brad Pitt, exemplified the Western genre's return to popularity on the big screen.

Late night shows returned in January with hosts Conan O'Brien and David Letterman sporting full strike beards.

Fourth place American Idol Chris Daughtry had the top-selling album.

R&B star Akon was Billboard's top pop artist; "Konvicted" spent 30 weeks in the top 30.

NBC remade and launched several '80s prime time hits: "Bionic Woman", "American Gladiators" and "Knight Rider".

In May, 2007, Dale Earnhardt Jr. announced plans to leave his father's legacy, DEI, and race for Hendrick Motorsports in 2008.

April 2007's Final Four brought a second consecutive NCAA title to the Florida Gators when they beat Ohio State, 84-75.

With a 9-3 win over North Carolina, Oregon State became the first team in years to win back-to-back College World Series.

The day after Tiger Woods finished second in the U.S. Open, his wife Elin gave birth to their first child, a daughter named Sam.

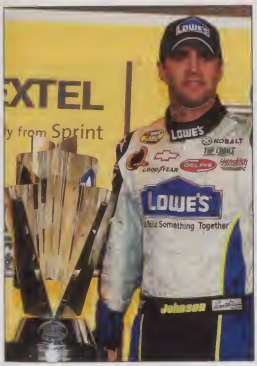
The NY Giants won Super Bowl XLII 17-14, thwarting the New England Patriots' hopes of becoming the first team since 1972 to complete an NFL season undefeated. New York QB Eli Manning and his brother Peyton (Indianapolis Colts) became the first brother QBs to lead their teams to back-to-back Super Bowl victories.

The Boston Red Sox celebrated after sweeping the Colorado Rockies with a 4-3 win in Game 4 of the World Series. Sox Pitcher Jon Lester became the third pitcher in MLB history to win the deciding game of a World Series in his first career postseason start.

Candace Parker's 17 points against Rutgers made her the Final Four MVP and earned the Lady Vols a national title.

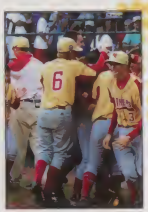
Californian Shaun White captured the Men's Snowboard Slopestyle honors in the 2007 ESPN Winter X Games in Aspen.

SPORTS

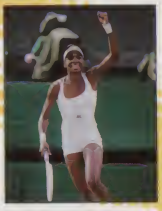


Jimmie Johnson won NASCAR's 2007 Nextel Cup, his second in as many years – after winning 10 individual races from coast to coast.

Florida QB Tim Tebow is the first underclassman to win the Heisman Trophy.



The team from Warner Robins, GA won the Little League World Series over Japan.



Venus Williams won her fourth Wimbledon title beating France's Marion Bartoli, 6-4, 6-1.

Controversy surrounding Atlanta Falcon quarterback Michael Vick's dogfighting operation in Surry County, VA continued past his July guilty plea and December sentencing to 23 months in prison.

New York Yankee Roger Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner with 354 career wins, disputed the claims of his former trainer who reported he injected Clemens with steroids.

Olympian Marion Jones was sentenced to six months in prison for lying about her use of steroids and involvement in a check-fraud scam.

Ex-NBA referee Tim Donaghy pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and transmitting betting info across state lines.

Bobby Knight, the winningest coach in college basketball with 902 victories, resigned abruptly from his head coaching responsibilities at Texas Tech in February. Knight will be succeeded by his son, Pat.

A number of sports greats passed away this year; these included SF 49's coach Bill Walsh, MLB pitcher Rod Beck and figure skater Christopher Bowman. In addition, Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor was shot and killed in a home invasion.

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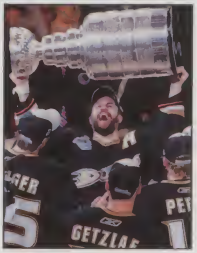
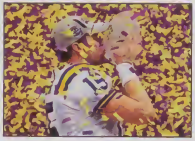
In one of the greatest upsets in college football, Appalachian State surprised Michigan 43-32 in Ann Arbor.



The Anaheim Ducks crushed the Ottawa Senators 6-2 earning the state of California its first Stanley Cup.



The LSU Tigers became the first team to win a second BCS title with a 38-24 championship win over Ohio State.

Top-ranked Lorena Ochoa became the fastest LPGA player ever to earn $10 million.

When the San Antonio Spurs swept Cleveland in an 83-82 finale, they became the fourth NBA team to win four titles. The Spurs joined the Boston Celtics, the LA Lakers and the Chicago Bulls at that level.

Roger Federer won his fifth consecutive Wimbledon crown in July, but not without drama. After his fifth set with Spain's Rafael Nadal, Federer clinched his twelfth Grand Slam title since 2003.

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Emily Burke, Elise Eaton, Brianna Brewer, Emilee Kolkowski, Ashley Kadlyna, Emily Blackburn,

Rebecca Bustamante, Aubrey Dickerson, Sandra Kane, Nicole Mathews, Sabrina Hernandez, and Mr. Hight